

**WISCONSIN STATUTES  
AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE  
  
RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF  
ACUPUNCTURE**

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State of Wisconsin  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Acupuncture  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Department of Regulation & Licensing certifies and regulates acupuncturists.

The Department of Regulation and Licensing is an umbrella agency providing administrative services to the various professional boards. Within the department the Bureau of Health Service Professions provides administrative services to the acupuncturists. Questions about department business regarding acupuncture may be directed to the examining board in care of the Bureau of Health Service Professions, 1400 East Washington Avenue, P. O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708.

This book contains statutes and rules relevant to the regulation and practice of the acupuncture profession in Wisconsin. These statutes and rules are part of the law in Wisconsin. To assist in using these materials, a subject index is included at the end of this book. Only a limited number of statutes and rules are included in this book.

The development of the law in this area is ongoing. Therefore, these rules and statutes may be revised subsequent to the printing of this book. Most local libraries maintain current sets of the Wisconsin Administrative Code and the Wisconsin Statutes. These documents as well as other state publications are available from the Department of Administration, Document Sales Division, P. O. Box 7840, Madison, Wisconsin 53707.

All Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Codes are available on the Internet at the following addresses:

Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/statutes.html>

Rules: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/codtoc.html>

## CHAPTER 15

### STRUCTURE OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

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#### SUBCHAPTER I

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

**15.001 Declaration of policy.** (1) **THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT.** The “republican form of government” guaranteed by the U.S. constitution contemplates the separation of powers within state government among the legislative, the executive and the judicial branches of the government. The legislative branch has the broad objective of determining policies and programs and review of program performance for programs previously authorized, the executive branch carries out the programs and policies and the judicial branch has the responsibility for adjudicating any conflicts which might arise from the interpretation or application of the laws. It is a traditional concept of American government that the 3 branches are to function separately, without intermingling of authority, except as specifically provided by law.

(2) **GOALS OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH ORGANIZATION.** (a) As the chief administrative officer of the state, the governor should be provided with the administrative facilities and the authority to carry out the functions of the governor’s office efficiently and effectively within the policy limits established by the legislature.

(b) The administrative agencies which comprise the executive branch should be consolidated into a reasonable number of departments and independent agencies consistent with executive capacity to administer effectively at all levels.

(c) The integration of the agencies in the executive branch should be on a functional basis, so that programs can be coordinated.

(d) Each agency in the executive branch should be assigned a name commensurate with the scope of its program responsibilities, and should be integrated into one of the departments or independent agencies of the executive branch as closely as the conflicting goals of administrative integration and responsiveness to the legislature will permit.

(3) **GOALS OF CONTINUING REORGANIZATION.** Structural reorganization should be a continuing process through careful executive and legislative appraisal of the placement of proposed new programs and the coordination of existing programs in response to changing emphasis or public needs, and should be consistent with the following goals:

(a) The organization of state government should assure its responsiveness to popular control. It is the goal of reorganization to improve legislative policy-making capability and to improve the administrative capability of the executive to carry out these policies.

(b) The organization of state government should facilitate communication between citizens and government. It is the goal of reorganization through coordination of related programs in function-oriented departments to improve public understanding of government programs and policies and to improve the relationships between citizens and administrative agencies.

(c) The organization of state government shall assure efficient and effective administration of the policies established by the legislature. It is the goal of reorganization to promote efficiency by improving the management and coordination of state services and by eliminating overlapping activities.

**History:** 1991 a.316.

**15.01 Definitions.** In this chapter: (lg) “Affiliated credentialing board” means a part-time body that meets all of the following conditions:

(a) Is attached to an examining board to regulate a profession that does not practice independently of the profession regulated by the examining board or that practices in collaboration with the profession regulated by the examining board.

(b) With the advice of the examining board to which it is attached, sets standards of professional competence and conduct for the profession under the affiliated credentialing board’s supervision, reviews the qualifications of prospective new practitioners, grants credentials, takes disciplinary action against credential holders and performs other functions assigned to it by law.

(1r) “Board” means a part-time body functioning as the policy-making unit for a department or independent agency or a part-time body with policy-making or quasi-judicial powers.

(2) “Commission” means a 3-member governing body in charge of a department or independent agency or of a division or other subunit within a department, except for the Wisconsin waterways commission which shall consist of 5 members, the parole commission which shall consist of 8 members, and the Fox River management commission which shall consist of 7 members. A Wisconsin group created for participation in a continuing interstate body, or the interstate body itself, shall be known as a “commission”, but is not a commission for purposes of s. 15.06. The parole commission created under s. 15.145 (1) shall be known as a “commission”, but is not a commission for purposes of s. 15.06. The sentencing commission created under s. 15.105 (27) shall be known as a “commission” but is not a commission for purposes of s. 15.06 (1) to (4m), (7), and (9).

(3) “Committee” means a part-time body appointed to study a specific problem and to recommend a solution or policy alternative with respect to that problem, and intended to terminate on the completion of its assignment. Because of their temporary nature, committees shall be created by session law rather than by statute.

(4) “Council” means a part-time body appointed to function on a continuing basis for the study, and recommendation of solutions and policy alternatives, of the problems arising in a specified functional area of state government, except the Wisconsin land council has the powers specified in s. 16.965 (3) and (5) and the powers granted to agencies under ch. 227, the Milwaukee River revitalization council has the powers and duties specified in s. 23.18, the council on physical disabilities has the powers and duties specified in s. 46.29 (1) and (2), and the state council on alcohol and other drug abuse has the powers and duties specified in s. 14.24.

(5) “Department” means the principal administrative agency within the executive branch of Wisconsin state government, but does not include the independent agencies under subch. III.

(6) “Division,” “bureau,” “section” and “unit” means the subunits of a department or an independent agency, whether specifically created by law or created by the head of the department or the independent agency for the more economic and efficient administration and operation of the programs assigned to the department or independent agency. The office of justice assistance in the department of administration and the office of credit unions in the

department of financial institutions have the meaning of "division" under this subsection. The office of the long-term care ombudsman under the board on aging and long-term care and the office of educational accountability in the department of public instruction have the meaning of "bureau" under this subsection.

(7) "Examining board" means a part-time body which sets standards of professional competence and conduct for the profession under its supervision, prepares, conducts and grades the examinations of prospective new practitioners, grants licenses, investigates complaints of alleged unprofessional conduct and performs other functions assigned to it by law. "Examining board" includes the board of nursing.

(8) "Head", in relation to a department, means the constitutional officer, commission, secretary or board in charge of the department. "Head", in relation to an independent agency, means the commission, commissioner or board in charge of the independent agency.

(9) "Independent agency" means an administrative agency within the executive branch created under subch. III.

**History:** 1977 c. 29, 274; 1979 c. 34; 1983 a. 27, 189, 371, 410, 538; 1985 a. 29, 120, 180; 1987 s. 27, 342, 399; 1989 a. 31, 107, 202; 1991 a. 39, 269, 315; 1993 a. 16, 107, 210, 215; 1995 a. 27 ss. 74 and 9145 (1); 1995 a. 442, 462; 1997 a. 27, 237; 2001 a. 16, 105, 109.

**15.02 Offices, departments and independent agencies.** The constitutional offices, administrative departments and independent agencies which comprise the executive branch of Wisconsin state government are structured as follows:

(1) **SEPARATE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES.** The governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state and state treasurer each head a staff to be termed the "office" of the respective constitutional officer.

(2) **PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS.** The principal administrative unit of the executive branch is a "department" or an "independent agency". Each such unit shall bear a title beginning with the words "State of Wisconsin" and continuing with "department of..." or with the name of the independent agency. A department may be headed by a constitutional officer, a secretary, a commission or a board. An independent agency may be headed by a commission, a commissioner or a board.

(3) **INTERNAL STRUCTURE.** (a) The secretary of each department may, subject to sub.(4), establish the internal structure within the office of secretary so as to best suit the purposes of his or her department. No secretary may authorize the designation of "assistant secretary" as the official position title of any employee of his or her department.

(b) For field operations, departments may establish district or area offices which may cut across divisional lines of responsibility.

(c) For their internal structure, all departments shall adhere to the following standard terms, and independent agencies are encouraged to review their internal structure and to adhere as much as possible to the following standard terms:

1. The principal subunit of the department is the "division". Each division shall be headed by an "administrator". The office of justice assistance in the department of administration and the office of credit unions in the department of financial institutions have the meaning of "division" and the executive staff director of the office of justice assistance in the department of administration and the director of credit unions have the meaning of "administrator" under this subdivision.

2. The principal subunit of the division is the "bureau". Each bureau shall be headed by a "director". The office of the long-term care ombudsman under the board on aging and long-term care and the office of educational accountability in the department of public instruction have the meaning of "bureau" under this subdivision.

2m. Notwithstanding subds. 1. and 2., the principal subunit of the department of tourism is the "bureau", which shall be headed by a "director".

3. If further subdivision is necessary, bureaus may be divided into subunits which shall be known as "sections" and which shall be headed by "chiefs" and sections may be divided into subunits which shall be known as "units" and which shall be headed by "supervisors".

(4) **INTERNAL ORGANIZATION AND ALLOCATION OF FUNCTIONS.** The head of each department or independent agency shall, subject to the approval of the governor, establish the internal organization of the department or independent agency and allocate and reallocate duties and functions not assigned by law to an officer or any subunit of the

department or independent agency to promote economic and efficient administration and operation of the department or independent agency. The head may delegate and redelegate to any officer or employee of the department or independent agency any function vested by law in the head. The governor may delegate the authority to approve selected organizational changes to the head of any department or independent agency.

**History:** 1971 c. 261; 1973 c. 12; 1975 c. 39; 1977 c. 29; 1979 c. 221; 1987 a. 27, 399; 1993 a. 16, 184, 215, 491; 1995 a. 27 ss. 75, 76, 76c and 9145 (1); 1997 a. 27. Limits of internal departmental reorganization discussed. 61 *Atty. Gen.* 306.

**15.03 Attachment for limited purposes.** Any division, office, commission, council or board attached under this section to a department or independent agency or a specified division thereof shall be a distinct unit of that department, independent agency or specified division. Any division, office, commission, council or board so attached shall exercise its powers, duties and functions prescribed by law, including rule making, licensing and regulation, and operational planning within the area of program responsibility of the division, office, commission, council or board, independently of the head of the department or independent agency, but budgeting, program coordination and related management functions shall be performed under the direction and supervision of the head of the department or independent agency, except that with respect to the office of the commissioner of railroads, all personnel and biennial budget requests by the office of the commissioner of railroads shall be provided to the department of transportation as required under s. 189.02 (7) and shall be processed and properly forwarded by the public service commission without change except as requested and concurred in by the office of the commissioner of railroads.

**History:** 1981 c. 347; 1983 a. 27; 1993 a. 123; 1999 a. 9.

**15.04 Heads of departments and independent agencies; powers and duties.** (1) **DUTIES.** Each head of a department or independent agency shall:

(a) **Supervision.** Except as provided in s. 15.03, plan, direct, coordinate and execute the functions vested in the department or independent agency.

(b) **Budget.** Biennially compile a comprehensive program budget which reflects all fiscal matters related to the operation of the department or independent agency and each program, subprogram and activity therein.

(c) **Advisory bodies.** In addition to any councils specifically created by law, create and appoint such councils or committees as the operation of the department or independent agency requires. Members of councils and committees created under this general authority shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties and, if such reimbursement is made, such reimbursement in the case of an officer or employee of this state who represents an agency as a member of such a council or committee shall be paid by the agency which pays the officer's or employee's salary.

(d) **Biennial report.** On or before October 15 of each odd-numbered year, submit to the governor and the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), a report on the performance and operations of the department or independent agency during the preceding biennium, and projecting the goals and objectives of the department or independent agency as developed for the program budget report. The secretary of administration may prescribe the format of the report and may require such other information deemed appropriate. Each department or independent agency shall provide a copy of its biennial report to legislators upon request. Any department or independent agency may issue such additional reports on its findings and recommendations as its operations require. A department or independent agency may, on or before October 15, submit an annual report prepared by it, in place of the biennial report required under this paragraph, if the submission of the annual reports is approved by the secretary of administration.

(e) **Seal.** Have authority to adopt a seal for the department or independent agency.

(f) **Bonds.** Have authority to require that any officer or employee of the department or independent agency give an official bond under ch.

19, if the secretary of administration agrees that the position held by such officer or employee requires bonding.

**(g) Discrimination review.** In order to determine whether there is any arbitrary discrimination on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, marital status or sexual orientation as defined in s. 111.32 (13m), examine and assess the statutes under which the head has powers or regulatory responsibilities, the procedures by which those statutes are administered and the rules promulgated under those statutes. If the department or agency head finds any such discrimination, he or she shall take remedial action, including making recommendations to the appropriate executive, legislative or administrative authority.

**(i) Records and forms management program.** Establish and maintain a records and forms management program.

**(j) Records and forms officer.** Appoint a records and forms officer, who shall be responsible for compliance by the department or independent agency with all records and forms management laws and rules and who may prevent any form from being put into use.

**(k) Form numbering and filing system.** Establish a numbering and filing system for forms.

**(m) Notice on forms.** See that each form used by the department or independent agency to seek information from municipalities, counties or the public contains on the first page of the form, or in the instructions for completing the form, a conspicuous notice of the authorization for the form, whether or not completing the form is voluntary, if it is not voluntary, the penalty for failure to respond and whether or not any personally identifiable information, as defined under s. 19.62 (5), requested in the form is likely to be used for purposes other than for which it is originally being collected. This paragraph does not apply to state tax forms.

**(2) DEPUTY.** Each secretary of a department or head of an independent agency under s. 230.08 (2) (L) may appoint a deputy who shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary or agency head outside the classified service. The deputy shall exercise the powers, duties and functions of the secretary or head in the absence of the secretary or head, and shall perform such other duties as the secretary or head prescribes. The adjutant general may appoint 2 deputies as provided in s. 21.18 (1). In this subsection "secretary" includes the attorney general and the state superintendent of public instruction.

**(3) DEPUTY APPROVALS.** Positions for which appointment is made under sub.(2) may be authorized only under s. 16.505.

**History:** 1971 c. 125; 1975 c. 94; 1977 c. 196, 273, 418, 447; 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 112, 350; 1981 c. 391 s. 210; 1983 a. 27, 524; 1985 a. 29; 1985 a. 180 ss. 2 to 4, 30m; 1985 a. 332; 1987 a. 147 s. 25; 1987 a. 186; 1989 a. 248; 1991 a. 39, 189; 1995 a. 27; 1997 a. 73.

**15.05 Secretaries. (1) SELECTION.** (a) If a department is under the direction and supervision of a secretary, the secretary shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, to serve at the pleasure of the governor.

(b) Except as provided in pars.(c) and (d), if a department is under the direction and supervision of a board, the board shall appoint a secretary to serve at the pleasure of the board outside the classified service. In such departments, the powers and duties of the board shall be regulatory, advisory and policy-making, and not administrative. All of the administrative powers and duties of the department are vested in the secretary, to be administered by him or her under the direction of the board. The secretary, with the approval of the board, shall promulgate rules for administering the department and performing the duties assigned to the department.

(c) The secretary of natural resources shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, to serve at the pleasure of the governor.

(d) The secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, to serve at the pleasure of the governor.

**(3) EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.** Each secretary may appoint an executive assistant to serve at his or her pleasure outside the classified service. The executive assistant shall perform duties as the secretary prescribes. In this subsection, "secretary" includes the attorney general, the adjutant general, the director of the technical college system and the state superintendent of public instruction.

**(3m) FIELD DISTRICT OR FIELD AREA DIRECTORS.** Each secretary may appoint a director under the classified service for each district or area office established in his or her department under s. 15.02 (3) (b).

**(4) OFFICIAL OATH.** Each secretary shall take and file the official oath prior to assuming office.

**(5) EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT APPROVALS.** Positions for which appointment is made under sub.(3) may be authorized only under s. 16.505.

**History:** 1973 c. 90; 1977 c. 4, 196; 1985 a. 18; 1985 a. 332 s. 251 (3); 1989 a. 31, 169; 1993 a. 399; 1995 a. 27.

A secretary, appointed by the governor, could be removed only by the governor, even though the general appointment statute had been amended to provide that the secretary is appointed by a board to serve at the board's pleasure. *Moses v. Board of Veterans Affairs*, 80 Wis. 2d 411, 259 N.W.2d 102 (1977).

**15.06 Commissions and commissioners. (1) SELECTION OF MEMBERS.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the members of commissions shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, for staggered 6-year terms expiring on March 1 of the odd-numbered years.

(ag) Members of the Wisconsin waterways commission shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, for staggered 5-year terms.

(ar) The commissioner of railroads shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, for a 6-year term expiring on March 1 of an odd-numbered year.

(b) The commissioner of insurance shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, to serve at the pleasure of the governor. The governor may remove from office the commissioner of insurance who was appointed for a fixed term before August 1, 1987.

(d) The members of the personnel commission shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, for 5-year terms, subject to the following conditions:

1. At least one member shall be licensed to practice law in this state.

2. They shall possess some professional experience in the field of personnel or labor relations.

3. No member may hold any other position in state employment.

4. No member, when appointed or for 3 years immediately prior to the date of appointment, may have been an officer of a committee in any political party, partisan political club or partisan political organization or have held or been a candidate for any partisan elective public office. No member may become a candidate for or hold any such office.

5. At no time may more than 2 members be adherents of the same political party.

6. Each member of the commission shall be a U.S. citizen and shall have been a resident of this state for at least 3 years.

**(2) SELECTION OF OFFICERS.** Each commission may annually elect officers other than a chairperson from among its members as its work requires. Any officer may be reappointed or reelected. At the time of making new nominations to commissions, the governor shall designate a member or nominee of each commission to serve as the commission's chairperson for a 2-year term expiring on March 1 of the odd-numbered year except that:

(a) Commencing March 1, 1979, and thereafter, the labor and industry review commission shall elect one of its members to serve as the commission's chairperson for a 2-year term expiring on March 1 of the odd-numbered year.

**(3) FULL-TIME OFFICES.** (a) A commissioner may not hold any other office or position of profit or pursue any other business or vocation, but shall devote his or her entire time to the duties of his or her office. This paragraph does not apply to:

1. The commissioner of insurance.

3. The members of the Wisconsin waterways commission.

(b) The commissioner of insurance shall not engage in any other occupation, business or activity that is in any way inconsistent with the performance of the duties of the commissioner of insurance, nor shall the commissioner hold any other public office.

**(4) CHAIRPERSON; ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES.** The administrative duties of each commission shall be vested in its chairperson, to be administered by the chairperson under the statutes and rules of the commission and subject to the policies established by the commission.

**(4m) EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.** Each commission chairperson under s. 230.08 (2) (m) and each commissioner of the public service commission may appoint an executive assistant to serve at his or her

pleasure outside the classified service. The executive assistant shall perform duties as the chairperson or commissioner prescribes.

(5) **FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS; PLACE.** Every commission shall meet on the call of the chairperson or a majority of its members. Every commission shall maintain its offices in Madison, but may meet or hold hearings at such other locations as will best serve the citizens of this state.

(6) **QUORUM.** A majority of the membership of a commission constitutes a quorum to do business, except that vacancies shall not prevent a commission from doing business. This subsection does not apply to the parole commission.

(7) **REPORTS.** Every commission attached to a department shall submit to the head of the department, upon request of that person not more often than annually, a report on the operation of the commission.

(8) **OFFICIAL OATH.** Every commissioner shall take and file the official oath prior to assuming office.

(9) **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT APPROVALS.** Positions for which appointment is made under sub.(4m) may be authorized only under s. 16.505.

**History:** 1971 c. 193, 307; 1977 c. 29, 196, 274; 1981 c. 347; 1983 a. 27, 371, 410, 538; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 27, 403; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39, 269, 316; 1993 a. 16, 123; 1995 a. 27; 1997 a. 27; 2001 a. 16.

A single member of the personnel commission is empowered to act as the commission when 2 of the 3 commission positions are vacant. 68 Atty. Gen. 323.

A commissioner designated as chairperson of the commission under sub.(2) is not appointed to a new position, and **ART. IV**, s. 26, precludes a salary increase based on that designation. 76 Atty. Gen. 52.

Sub.(3) (a) prohibits a commissioner from pursuing business interests that would prevent properly fulfilling the duties of the office. 77 Atty. Gen. 36.

**15.07 Boards.** (1) **SELECTION OF MEMBERS.** (a) If a department or independent agency is under the direction and supervision of a board, the members of the board, other than the members serving on the board because of holding another office or position, shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, to serve for terms prescribed by law, except:

1. Members of the higher educational aids board shall be appointed by the governor without senate confirmation.

2. Members of the elections board shall be appointed as provided in s. 15.61.

3. Members of the employee trust funds board appointed or elected under s. 15.16 (1) (a), (b), (d) and (f) shall be appointed or elected as provided in that section.

4. Members of the investment board appointed under s. 15.76 (3) shall be appointed as provided in that section.

5. The members of the educational communications board appointed under s. 15.57 (5) and (7) shall be appointed as provided in that section.

6. Members of the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Board appointed under s. 15.96 (8) shall be appointed by the governor without senate confirmation.

(b) For each board not covered under par.(a), the governor shall appoint the members of the board, other than the members serving on the board because of holding another office or position and except as otherwise provided, for terms prescribed by law except that all members of the following boards, or all members of the following boards specified in this paragraph, other than the members serving on a board because of holding another office or position, shall be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed, for terms provided by law:

1. Banking review board.

2. College savings program board.

3. Credit union review board.

5. Savings and loan review board.

8. Real estate board.

9. Board on aging and long-term care.

10. Land and water conservation board.

11. Waste facility siting board.

12. Prison industries board.

14. Deferred compensation board.

15. The 3 members of the lower Wisconsin state riverway board appointed under s. 15.445 (3) (b) 7.

15m. The members of the state fair park board appointed under s. 15.445 (4) (a) 3. to 5.

16. Land information board.

**Note:** Subd. 16. is repealed eff. 9-1-03 by 1997 Wis. Act 27.

17. Real estate appraisers board.

18. Savings bank review board.

19m. Auctioneer board.

20. The 3 members of the Kickapoo reserve management board appointed under s. 15.445 (2) (b) 3.

22. Private employer health care coverage board.

**Note:** Subd. 22. is repealed eff. 1-1-10 by 1999 Wis. Act 9.

(c) Except as provided under par.(cm), fixed terms of members of boards shall expire on May 1 and, if the term is for an even number of years, shall expire in an odd-numbered year.

(cm) The term of one member of the ethics board shall expire on each May 1. The terms of 3 members of the development finance board appointed under s. 15.155 (1) (a) 6. shall expire on May 1 of every even-numbered year and the terms of the other 3 members appointed under s. 15.155 (1) (a) 6. shall expire on May 1 of every odd-numbered year. The terms of the 3 members of the land and water conservation board appointed under s. 15.135 (4) (b) 2. shall expire on January 1. The term of the member of the land and water conservation board appointed under s. 15.135 (4) (b) 2m. shall expire on May 1 of an even-numbered year. The terms of members of the real estate board shall expire on July 1. The terms of the appraiser members of the real estate appraisers board and the terms of the auctioneer and auction company representative members of the auctioneer board shall expire on May 1 in an even-numbered year.

(cs) No member of the auctioneer board, real estate appraisers board or real estate board may be an officer, director or employee of a private organization that promotes or furthers any profession or occupation regulated by that board.

(2) **SELECTION OF OFFICERS.** At its first meeting in each year, every board shall elect a chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary each of whom may be reelected for successive terms, except that:

(a) The chairperson and vice chairperson of the investment board shall be designated biennially by the governor.

(b) The chairperson of the board on health care information shall be designated biennially by the governor.

(d) The officers elected by the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin System and the technical college system board shall be known as a president, vice president and secretary.

(e) The representative of the department of justice shall serve as chairperson of the claims board and the representative of the department of administration shall serve as its secretary.

(f) The state superintendent of public instruction or his or her designated representative shall serve as chairperson of the school district boundary appeal board.

(g) A representative of the department of justice designated by the attorney general shall serve as nonvoting secretary to the law enforcement standards board.

(h) The chairperson of the state fair park board shall be designated annually by the governor from among the members appointed under s. 15.445 (4) (a) 3, 4, and 5.

(j) At its first meeting in each even-numbered year, the state capitol and executive residence board shall elect officers for 2-year terms.

(k) The governor shall serve as chairperson of the governor's work-based learning board.

(L) The governor shall serve as chairperson of the information technology management board and the chief information officer shall serve as secretary of that board.

(3) **FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS.** (a) If a department or independent agency is under the direction and supervision of a board, the board shall meet quarterly and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson or a majority of its members. If a department or independent agency is under the direction and supervision of a board, the board shall, in addition, meet no later than August 31 of each even-numbered year to consider and approve a proposed budget of the department or independent agency for the succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) Except as provided in par.(bm), each board not covered under par.(a) shall meet annually, and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson or a majority of its members. The auctioneer board, the real estate board and the real estate appraisers board shall also meet on the call of the secretary of regulation and licensing or his or her designee within the department.

(bm) 1. The board on health care information shall meet 4 times each year and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson or a majority of the board's members.

2. The environmental education board shall meet 4 times each year and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson.

3. The auctioneer board shall meet at least 4 times each year.

4. The information technology management board shall meet at least 4 times each year and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson.

**(4) QUORUM.** A majority of the membership of a board constitutes a quorum to do business and, unless a more restrictive provision is adopted by the board, a majority of a quorum may act in any matter within the jurisdiction of the board. This subsection does not apply to actions of the ethics board or the school district boundary appeal board as provided in ss. 19.47 (4) and 117.05 (2) (a).

**(5) REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES; COMPENSATION.** Except as provided in sub.(5m), the members of each board shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, such reimbursement in the case of an officer or employee of this state who represents an agency as a member of a board to be paid by the agency which pays the member's salary. The members shall receive no compensation for their services, except that the following members of boards, except full-time state officers or employees, also shall be paid the per diem stated below for each day on which they were actually and necessarily engaged in the performance of their duties:

(a) Members of the investment board, \$50 per day.

(b) Members of the banking review board, \$25 per day but not to exceed \$1,500 per year.

(c) Members of the auctioneer board, \$25 per day.

(d) Members of the board of agriculture, trade and consumer protection, not exceeding \$35 per day as fixed by the board with the approval of the governor, but not to exceed \$1,000 per year.

(e) In lieu of a per diem, the members of the technical college system board shall receive \$100 annually.

(f) Members of the teachers retirement board, appointive members of the Wisconsin retirement board, appointive members of the group insurance board, members of the deferred compensation board and members of the employee trust funds board, \$25 per day.

(g) Members of the savings and loan review board, \$10 per day.

(gm) Members of the savings bank review board, \$10 per day.

(h) Voting members of the land and water conservation board, \$25 per day.

(i) Members of the educational approval board, \$25 per day.

(j) Members of the state fair park board, \$10 per day but not to exceed \$600 per year.

(k) Members of the ethics board, \$25 per day.

(L) Members of the school district boundary appeal board, \$25 per day.

(n) Members of the elections board, \$25 per day.

(o) Members of the burial sites preservation board, \$25 per day.

(r) Members of the real estate board, \$25 per day.

(s) Members of the credit union review board, \$25 per day but not to exceed \$1,500 per year.

(t) Members of the waste facility siting board who are town or county officials, \$35 per day.

(w) Members of the lower Wisconsin state riverway board, \$25 per day.

(x) Members of the real estate appraisers board, \$25 per day.

(y) Members of the Kickapoo reserve management board, \$25 per day.

**(5m) LIMITATIONS ON SALARY AND EXPENSES. (b) Lower Wisconsin state riverway board.** The members, except for the chairperson, of the lower Wisconsin state riverway board shall be reimbursed under sub.(5) for only their necessary and actual travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, or shall be paid \$25 plus mileage incurred in the performance of their duties, whichever is greater. The chairperson of the lower Wisconsin state riverway board shall be reimbursed for all his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties. The lower Wisconsin state riverway board shall determine which expenses of the chairperson are actual and necessary before reimbursement.

**(6) REPORTS.** Every board created in or attached to a department or independent agency shall submit to the head of the department or

independent agency, upon request of that person not more often than annually, a report on the operation of the board.

**(7) OFFICIAL OATH.** Each member of a board shall take and file the official oath prior to assuming office.

**History:** 1971 c. 100 s. 23; 1971 c. 125, 261, 270, 323; 1973 c. 90, 156, 299, 334; 1975 c. 39, 41, 422; 1977 c. 29 ss. 24, 26, 1650m (3); 1977 c. 203, 277, 418, 427; 1979 c. 34, 110, 221, 346; 1981 c. 20, 62, 94, 96, 156, 314, 346, 374, 391; 1983 a. 27, 282, 403; 1985 a. 20, 39, 314; 1987 a. 27, 119, 142, 334, 399, 403; 1989 a. 31, 102, 114, 219, 299, 340; 1991 a. 25, 39, 116, 221, 269, 316; 1993 a. 16, 75, 102, 184, 349, 399, 490; 1995 a. 21, 216, 247; 1997 a. 27; 1999 a. 9, 44, 181, 197; 2001 a. 16.

"Membership" as used in sub.(4) means the authorized number of positions and not the number of positions that are currently occupied. 66 Atty. Gen. 192.

**15.08 Examining boards and councils. (1) SELECTION OF MEMBERS.** All members of examining boards shall be residents of this state and shall, unless otherwise provided by law, be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed. Appointments shall be for the terms provided by law. Terms shall expire on July 1. No member may serve more than 2 consecutive terms. No member of an examining board may be an officer, director or employee of a private organization which promotes or furthers the profession or occupation regulated by that board.

**(1m) PUBLIC MEMBERS.** (a) Public members appointed under s. 15.405 or 15.407 shall have all the powers and duties of other members except they shall not prepare questions for or grade any licensing examinations.

(am) Public members appointed under s. 15.405 or 15.407 shall not be, nor ever have been, licensed, certified, registered or engaged in any profession or occupation licensed or otherwise regulated by the board, examining board or examining council to which they are appointed, shall not be married to any person so licensed, certified, registered or engaged, and shall not employ, be employed by or be professionally associated with any person so licensed, certified, registered or engaged.

(b) The public members of the chiropractic examining board, the dentistry examining board, the hearing and speech examining board, the medical examining board, perfusionists examining council, respiratory care practitioners examining council and council on physician assistants, the board of nursing, the nursing home administrator examining board, the veterinary examining board, the optometry examining board, the pharmacy examining board, the marriage and family therapy, professional counseling, and social work examining board, and the psychology examining board shall not be engaged in any profession or occupation concerned with the delivery of physical or mental health care.

(c) The membership of each examining board and examining council created in the department of regulation and licensing after June 1, 1975, shall be increased by one member who shall be a public member appointed to serve for the same term served by the other members of such examining board or examining council, unless the act relating to the creation of such examining board or examining council provides that 2 or more public members shall be appointed to such examining board or examining council.

**(2) SELECTION OF OFFICERS.** At its first meeting in each year, every examining board shall elect from among its members a chairperson, vice chairperson and, unless otherwise provided by law, a secretary. Any officer may be reelected to succeed himself or herself.

**(3) FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS.** (a) Every examining board shall meet annually and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson or of a majority of its members.

(b) The medical examining board shall meet at least 12 times annually.

(c) The hearing and speech examining board shall meet at least once every 3 months.

**(4) QUORUM.** (a) A majority of the membership of an examining board constitutes a quorum to do business, and a majority of a quorum may act in any matter within the jurisdiction of the examining board.

(b) Notwithstanding par.(a), no certificate or license which entitles the person certified or licensed to practice a trade or profession shall be suspended or revoked without the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting membership of the examining board.



**(5) GENERAL POWERS.** Each examining board: (a) May compel the attendance of witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony and receive proof concerning all matters within its jurisdiction.

(b) Shall promulgate rules for its own guidance and for the guidance of the trade or profession to which it pertains, and define and enforce professional conduct and unethical practices not inconsistent with the law relating to the particular trade or profession.

(c) May limit, suspend or revoke, or reprimand the holder of, any license, permit or certificate granted by the examining board.

**(6) IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROFESSION.** In addition to any other duties vested in it by law, each examining board shall foster the standards of education or training pertaining to its own trade or profession, not only in relation of the trade or profession to the interest of the individual or to organized business enterprise, but also in relation to government and to the general welfare. Each examining board shall endeavor, both within and outside its own trade or profession, to bring about a better understanding of the relationship of the particular trade or profession to the general welfare of this state.

**(7) COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES.** Each member of an examining board shall, unless the member is a full-time salaried employee of this state, be paid a per diem of \$25 for each day on which the member was actually and necessarily engaged in the performance of examining board duties. Each member of an examining board shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of examining board duties.

**(8) OFFICIAL OATH.** Every member of an examining board shall take and file the official oath prior to assuming office.

**(9) ANNUAL REPORTS.** Every examining board shall submit to the head of the department in which it is created, upon request of that person not more often than annually, a report on the operation of the examining board.

**(10) SEAL.** Every examining board may adopt a seal.

*History:* 1971 c. 40, 1975 c. 86, 199; 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 32; 1979 c. 34 ss. 32e to 32s, 2102 (45) (a); 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 94; 1983 a. 403, 524; 1985 a. 332, 340; 1987 a. 399; 1989 a. 229, 316, 359; 1991 a. 39, 160, 316; 1993 a. 105, 107, 184, 490; 1995 a. 245; 1997 a. 175; 1999 a. 180; 2001 a. 80, 89, 105.

Selection and terms of officers of regulatory and licensing boards are discussed. 75 Atty. Gen. 247 (1986).

**15.085 Affiliated credentialing boards. (1) SELECTION OF MEMBERS.** All members of affiliated credentialing boards shall be residents of this state and shall, unless otherwise provided by law, be nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the senate appointed. Appointments shall be for the terms provided by law. Terms shall expire on July 1. No member may serve more than 2 consecutive terms. No member of an affiliated credentialing board may be an officer, director or employee of a private organization which promotes or furthers the profession or occupation regulated by that board.

**(1m) PUBLIC MEMBERS.** (a) Public members appointed under s. 15.406 shall have all of the powers and duties of other members except that they shall not prepare questions for or grade any licensing examinations.

(am) Public members appointed under s. 15.406 shall not be, nor ever have been, licensed, certified, registered or engaged in any profession or occupation licensed or otherwise regulated by the affiliated credentialing board to which they are appointed, shall not be married to any person so licensed, certified, registered or engaged, and shall not employ, be employed by or be professionally associated with any person so licensed, certified, registered or engaged.

(b) The public members of the physical therapists affiliated credentialing board, podiatrists affiliated credentialing board or occupational therapists affiliated credentialing board shall not be engaged in any profession or occupation concerned with the delivery of physical or mental health care.

**(2) SELECTION OF OFFICERS.** At its first meeting in each year, every affiliated credentialing board shall elect from among its members a chairperson, vice chairperson and, unless otherwise provided by law, a secretary. Any officer may be reelected to succeed himself or herself.

**(3) FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS.** (a) Every affiliated credentialing board shall meet annually and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson or of a majority of its members.

(b) The chairperson of an affiliated credentialing board shall meet at least once every 6 months with the examining board to which the

affiliated credentialing board is attached to consider all matters of joint interest.

**(4) QUORUM.** (a) A majority of the membership of an affiliated credentialing board constitutes a quorum to do business, and a majority of a quorum may act in any matter within the jurisdiction of the affiliated credentialing board.

(b) Notwithstanding par.(a), no certificate or license which entitles the person certified or licensed to practice a trade or profession shall be suspended or revoked without the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the affiliated credentialing board.

**(5) GENERAL POWERS.** Each affiliated credentialing board:

(a) May compel the attendance of witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony and receive proof concerning all matters within its jurisdiction.

(b) Shall promulgate rules for its own guidance and for the guidance of the trade or profession to which it pertains, and define and enforce professional conduct and unethical practices not inconsistent with the law relating to the particular trade or profession. In addition to any other procedure under ch. 227 relating to the promulgation of rules, when promulgating a rule, other than an emergency rule under s. 227.24, an affiliated credentialing board shall do all of the following:

1. Submit the proposed rule to the examining board to which the affiliated credentialing board is attached. The proposed rule shall be submitted under this subdivision at least 60 days before the proposed rule is submitted to the legislative council staff under s. 227.15 (1).

2. Consider any comments on a proposed rule made by the examining board to which the affiliated credentialing board is attached, if the examining board submits the comments to the affiliated credentialing board within 30 days after a public hearing on the proposed rule under s. 227.18 or, if no hearing is held, within 30 days after the proposed rule is published under s. 227.16 (2) (e).

3. Include, in the report submitted to the legislature under s. 227.19 (2), any comments on the proposed rule submitted by the examining board under subd. 2. and the affiliated credentialing board's responses to those comments.

(c) May limit, suspend or revoke, or reprimand the holder of, any license, permit or certificate granted by the affiliated credentialing board.

**(6) IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROFESSION.** In addition to any other duties vested in it by law, each affiliated credentialing board shall foster the standards of education or training pertaining to its own trade or profession, not only in relation of the trade or profession to the interest of the individual or to organized business enterprise, but also in relation to government and to the general welfare. Each affiliated credentialing board shall endeavor, both within and outside its own trade or profession, to bring about a better understanding of the relationship of the particular trade or profession to the general welfare of this state.

**(7) COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES.** Each member of an affiliated credentialing board shall, unless the member is a full-time salaried employee of this state, be paid a per diem of \$25 for each day on which the member was actually and necessarily engaged in the performance of affiliated credentialing board duties. Each member of an affiliated credentialing board shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of affiliated credentialing board duties.

**(8) OFFICIAL OATH.** Every member of an affiliated credentialing board shall take and file the official oath prior to assuming office.

**(9) ANNUAL REPORTS.** Every affiliated credentialing board shall submit to the head of the department in which it is created, upon request of that person not more often than annually, a report on the operation of the affiliated credentialing board.

**(10) SEAL.** Every affiliated credentialing board may adopt a seal.

*History:* 1993 a. 107; 1997 a. 175; 1999 a. 180.

**15.09 Councils. (1) SELECTION OF MEMBERS.** (a) Unless otherwise provided by law, the governor shall appoint the members of councils for terms prescribed by law. Except as provided in par.(b), fixed terms shall expire on July 1 and shall, if the term is for an even number of years, expire in an odd-numbered year.

(b) The terms of the members of the council on recycling shall expire as specified under s. 15.347 (17) (c).

**(2) SELECTION OF OFFICERS.** Unless otherwise provided by law, at its first meeting in each year every council shall elect a chairperson,

vice chairperson and secretary from among its members. Any officer may be reelected for successive terms. For any council created under the general authority of s. 15.04 (1) (c), the constitutional officer or secretary heading the department or the chief executive officer of the independent agency in which such council is created shall designate an employee of the department or independent agency to serve as secretary of the council and to be a voting member thereof.

**(3) LOCATION AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS.** Unless otherwise provided by law, every council shall meet at least annually and shall also meet on the call of the head of the department or independent agency in which it is created, and may meet at other times on the call of the chairperson or a majority of its members. A council shall meet at such locations as may be determined by it unless the constitutional officer or secretary heading the department or the chief executive officer of the independent agency in which it is created determines a specific meeting place.

**(4) QUORUM.** Except as otherwise expressly provided, a majority of the membership of a council constitutes a quorum to do business, and a majority of a quorum may act in any matter within the jurisdiction of the council.

**(5) POWERS AND DUTIES.** Unless otherwise provided by law, a council shall advise the head of the department or independent agency in which it is created and shall function on a continuing basis for the study, and recommendation of solutions and policy alternatives, of the problems arising in a specified functional area of state government.

**(6) REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES.** Members of a council shall not be compensated for their services, but members of councils created by statute shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, such reimbursement in the case of an elective or appointive officer or employee of this state who represents an agency as a member of a council to be paid by the agency which pays his or her salary.

**(7) REPORTS.** Unless a different provision is made by law for transmittal or publication of a report, every council created in a department or independent agency shall submit to the head of the department or independent agency, upon request of that person not more often than annually, a report on the operation of the council.

**(8) OFFICIAL OATH.** Each member of a council shall take and file the official oath prior to assuming office.

**History:** 1971 c. 211; 1977 c. 29; 1977 c. 196 s. 131; 1979 c. 34,346; 1983 a. 27,388, 410; 1985 a. 84; 1989a.335; 1991 a.39, 189; 1993 a. 184.

## SUBCHAPTER II DEPARTMENTS

### 15.40 Department of regulation and licensing; creation.

There is created a department of regulation and licensing under the direction and supervision of the secretary of regulation and licensing.

**History:** 1971 c. 270 s. 104; 1975 c.39; 1977 c. 29; 1977 c. 196s. 131; 1977 c. 418 ss. 24 to 27.

#### 15.405 Same; attached boards and examining boards.

**(1) ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created an accounting examining board in the department of regulation and licensing. The examining board shall consist of 7 members, appointed for staggered 4-year terms. Five members shall hold certificates as certified public accountants and be eligible for licensure to practice in this state. Two members shall be public members.

**(2) EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS AND LAND SURVEYORS.** There is created an examining board of architects, landscape architects, professional engineers, designers and land surveyors in the department of regulation and licensing. Any professional member appointed to the examining board shall be registered to practice architecture, landscape architecture, professional engineering, the design of engineering systems or land surveying under ch. 443. The examining board shall consist of the following members appointed for 4-year terms: 3 architects, 3 landscape architects, 3 professional engineers, 3 designers, 3 land surveyors and 10 public members.

(a) In operation, the examining board shall be divided into an architect section, a landscape architect section, an engineer section, a designer section and a land surveyor section. Each section shall consist of the 3 members of the named profession appointed to the examining board and 2 public members appointed to the section. The

examining board shall elect its own officers, and shall meet at least twice annually.

(b) All matters pertaining to passing upon the qualifications of applicants for and the granting or revocation of registration, and all other matters of interest to either the architect, landscape architect, engineer, designer or land surveyor section shall be acted upon solely by the interested section.

(c) All matters of joint interest shall be considered by joint meetings of all sections of the examining board or of those sections to which the problem is of interest.

**(2m) EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS AND SOIL SCIENTISTS.** (a) There is created in the department of regulation and licensing an examining board of professional geologists, hydrologists and soil scientists consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

1. Three members who are professional geologists licensed under ch. 470.

2. Three members who are professional hydrologists licensed under ch. 470.

3. Three members who are professional soil scientists licensed under ch. 470.

4. Three public members.

(b) In operation, the examining board shall be divided into a professional geologist section, a professional hydrologist section and a professional soil scientist section. Each section shall consist of the 3 members of the named profession appointed to the examining board and one public member appointed to the section. The examining board shall elect its own officers, and shall meet at least twice annually.

(c) All matters pertaining to passing upon the qualifications of applicants for and the granting or revocation of licenses, and all other matters of interest to either the professional geologist, hydrologist or soil scientist section shall be acted upon solely by the interested section.

(d) All matters of joint interest shall be considered by joint meetings of all sections of the examining board or of those sections to which the matter is of interest.

**(3) AUCTIONEER BOARD.** (a) There is created in the department of regulation and licensing an auctioneer board consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

1. Four members, each of whom is registered under ch. 480 as an auctioneer, or is an auction company representative, as defined in s. 480.01 (3), of an auction company that is registered under ch. 480 as an auction company.

2. Three public members.

(b) No member of the board may serve more than 2 terms.

**(5) CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a chiropractic examining board in the department of regulation and licensing. The chiropractic examining board shall consist of 6 members, appointed for staggered 4-year terms. Four members shall be graduates from a school of chiropractic and licensed to practice chiropractic in this state. Two members shall be public members. No person may be appointed to the examining board who is in any way connected with or has a financial interest in any chiropractic school.

**(5g) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BOARD.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing a controlled substances board consisting of the attorney general, the secretary of health and family services and the secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection, or their designees; the chairperson of the pharmacy examining board or a designee; and one psychiatrist and one pharmacologist appointed for 3-year terms.

**(6) DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a dentistry examining board in the department of regulation and licensing consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

(a) Six dentists who are licensed under ch. 447.

(b) Three dental hygienists who are licensed under ch. 447. Notwithstanding s. 15.08 (1m) (a), the dental hygienist members may participate in the preparation and grading of licensing examinations for dental hygienists.

(c) Two public members.

**(6m) HEARING AND SPEECH EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a hearing and speech examining board in the department of regulation and licensing consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

(a) Three hearing instrument specialists licensed under subch. I of ch. 459.

(b) One otolaryngologist.

(c) 1. One audiologist registered under subch. III of ch. 459. This subdivision applies during the period beginning on December 1, 1990, and ending on June 30, 1993.

2. One audiologist licensed under subch. II of ch. 459. This subdivision applies after June 30, 1993.

(d) 1. One speech-language pathologist registered under subch. III of ch. 459. This subdivision applies during the period beginning on December 1, 1990, and ending on June 30, 1993.

2. One speech-language pathologist licensed under subch. II of ch. 459. This subdivision applies after June 30, 1993.

(e) Two public members. One of the public members shall be a hearing aid user.

**(7) MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD.** (a) There is created a medical examining board in the department of regulation and licensing.

(b) The medical examining board shall consist of the following members appointed for staggered 4-year terms:

1. Nine licensed doctors of medicine.

2. One licensed doctor of osteopathy.

3. Three public members.

(c) The chairperson of the patients compensation fund peer review council under s. 655.275 shall serve as a nonvoting member of the medical examining board.

**(7c) MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD.** (a) There is created a marriage and family therapy, professional counseling, and social work examining board in the department of regulation and licensing consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

1. Four social worker members who are certified or licensed under ch. 457.

2. Three marriage and family therapist members who are licensed under ch. 457.

3. Three professional counselor members who are licensed under ch. 457.

4. Three public members who represent groups that promote the interests of consumers of services provided by persons who are certified or licensed under ch. 457.

(am) The 4 members appointed under par.(a) 1. shall consist of the following:

1. One member who is certified under ch. 457 as an advanced practice social worker.

2. One member who is certified under ch. 457 as an independent social worker.

3. One member who is licensed under ch. 457 as a clinical social worker.

4. At least one member who is employed as a social worker by a federal, state or local governmental agency.

(b) In operation, the examining board shall be divided into a social worker section, a marriage and family therapist section and a professional counselor section. The social worker section shall consist of the 4 social worker members of the examining board and one of the public members of the examining board. The marriage and family therapist section shall consist of the 3 marriage and family therapist members of the examining board and one of the public members of the examining board. The professional counselor section shall consist of the 3 professional counselor members of the examining board and one of the public members of the examining board.

(c) All matters pertaining to granting, denying, limiting, suspending, or revoking a certificate or license under ch. 457, and all other matters of interest to either the social worker, marriage and family therapist, or professional counselor section shall be acted upon solely by the interested section of the examining board.

(d) All matters that the examining board determines are of joint interest shall be considered by joint meetings of all sections of the examining board or of those sections to which the problem is of interest.

(e) Notwithstanding s. 15.08 (4) (a), at a joint meeting of all sections of the examining board, a majority of the examining board constitutes a quorum to do business only if at least 8 members are present at the meeting. At a meeting of a section of the examining board or a joint meeting of 2 or more of the sections of the examining

board, each member who is present has one vote, except as provided in par.(f).

(f) At a joint meeting of the social worker section and one or both of the other sections of the examining board, each member who is present has one vote, except that the social worker members each have three-fourths of a vote if all 4 of those members are present.

**(7g) BOARD OF NURSING.** There is created a board of nursing in the department of regulation and licensing. The board of nursing shall consist of the following members appointed for staggered 4-year terms: 5 currently licensed registered nurses under ch. 441; 2 currently licensed practical nurses under ch. 441; and 2 public members. Each registered nurse member shall have graduated from a program in professional nursing and each practical nurse member shall have graduated from a program in practical nursing accredited by the state in which the program was conducted.

**(7m) NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a nursing home administrator examining board in the department of regulation and licensing consisting of 9 members appointed for staggered 4-year terms and the secretary of health and family services or a designee, who shall serve as a nonvoting member. Five members shall be nursing home administrators licensed in this state. One member shall be a physician. One member shall be a nurse licensed under ch. 441. Two members shall be public members. No more than 2 members may be officials or full-time employees of this state.

**(8) OPTOMETRY EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created an optometry examining board in the department of regulation and licensing. The optometry examining board shall consist of 7 members appointed for staggered 4-year terms. Five of the members shall be licensed optometrists in this state. Two members shall be public members.

**(9) PHARMACY EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a pharmacy examining board in the department of regulation and licensing. The pharmacy examining board shall consist of 7 members appointed for staggered 4-year terms. Five of the members shall be licensed to practice pharmacy in this state. Two members shall be public members.

**(10m) PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing a psychology examining board consisting of 6 members appointed for staggered 4-year terms. Four of the members shall be psychologists licensed in this state. Each of the psychologist members shall represent a different specialty area within the field of psychology. Two members shall be public members.

**(10r) REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS BOARD.** (a) There is created a real estate appraisers board in the department of regulation and licensing consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

1. Three appraisers who are certified or licensed under ch. 458.

2. One assessor, as defined in s. 458.09 (1).

3. Three public members.

(b) Of the appraiser members of the board, one shall be certified under s. 458.06 as a general appraiser, one shall be certified under s. 458.06 as a residential appraiser and one shall be licensed under s. 458.08 as an appraiser. No public member of the board may be connected with or have any financial interest in an appraisal business or in any other real estate-related business. Section 15.08 (1m) (am) applies to the public members of the board. No member of the board may serve more than 2 consecutive terms.

(c) Notwithstanding s. 15.07 (4), a majority of the board constitutes a quorum to do business only if at least 2 of the members present are appraiser members and at least one of the members present is a public member.

**(11) REAL ESTATE BOARD.** There is created a real estate board in the department of regulation and licensing. The real estate board shall consist of 7 members appointed to staggered 4-year terms. Four of the members shall be real estate brokers or salespersons licensed in this state. Three members shall be public members. Section 15.08 (1m) (am) applies to the public members of the real estate board. No member may serve more than 2 terms. The real estate board does not have rule-making authority.

**(12) VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a veterinary examining board in the department of regulation and licensing. The veterinary examining board shall consist of 8 members appointed for staggered 4-year terms. Five of the members shall be licensed veterinarians in this state. One member shall be a veterinary technician certified in this state. Two members shall be public

members. No member of the examining board may in any way be financially interested in any school having a veterinary department or a course of study in veterinary or animal technology.

**(16) FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a funeral directors examining board in the department of regulation and licensing. The funeral directors examining board shall consist of 6 members appointed for staggered 4-year terms. Four members shall be licensed funeral directors under ch. 445 in this state. Two members shall be public members.

**(17) BARBERING AND COSMETOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD.** There is created a barbering and cosmetology examining board in the department of regulation and licensing. The barbering and cosmetology examining board shall consist of 9 members appointed for 4-year terms. Four members shall be licensed barbers or cosmetologists, 2 members shall be public members, one member shall be a representative of a private school of barbering or cosmetology, one member shall be a representative of a public school of barbering or cosmetology and one member shall be a licensed electrologist. Except for the 2 members representing schools, no member may be connected with or have any financial interest in a barbering or cosmetology school.

**History:** 1973 c. 90, 156; 1975 c. 39, 86, 199, 200, 383, 422; 1977 c. 26, 29, 203; 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 34 ss. 45, 47 to 52; 1979 c. 221, 304; 1981 c. 94 ss. 5, 9; 1981 c. 356; 1983 a. 27, 403, 485, 538; 1985 a. 340; 1987 a. 257 s. 2; 1987 a. 264, 265, 316; 1989 a. 316, 340; 1991 a. 39, 78, 160, 189, 269; 1993 a. 16, 102, 463, 465, 491; 1995 a. 27 s. 9126(19); 1995 a. 225; 1995 a. 305 s. 1; 1995 a. 321, 417; 1997 a. 96, 252, 300; 2001 a. 16, 80.

A medical school instructor serving without compensation is ineligible to serve on the board of medical examiners. 62 Atty. Gen. 193.

An incumbent real estate examining board member is entitled to hold over in office until a successor is duly appointed and confirmed by the senate. The board was without authority to reimburse the nominee for expenses incurred in attending a meeting during an orientation period prior to confirmation. 63 Atty. Gen. 192.

#### **15.406 Same; attached affiliated credentialing boards.**

**(1) PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing, attached to the medical examining board, a physical therapists affiliated credentialing board consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

(a) Three physical therapists who are licensed under subch. III of ch. 448.

(am) One physical therapist assistant licensed under subch. III of ch. 448.

**Note:** Par. (am) is created eff. 4-1-04 by 2001 Wis. Act 70.

(b) One public member.

**(2) DIETITIANS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing, attached to the medical examining board, a dietitians affiliated credentialing board consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

(a) Three dietitians who are certified under subch. V of ch. 448.

(b) One public member.

**(3) PODIATRISTS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing, attached to the medical examining board, a podiatrists affiliated credentialing board consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

(a) Three podiatrists who are licensed under subch. IV of ch. 448.

(b) One public member.

**(4) ATHLETIC TRAINERS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing, attached to the medical examining board, an athletic trainers affiliated credentialing board consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

(a) Four athletic trainers who are licensed under subch. VI of ch. 448 and who have not been issued a credential in athletic training by a governmental authority in a jurisdiction outside this state. One of the athletic trainer members may also be licensed under ch. 446 or 447 or subch. II, III or IV of ch. 448.

(b) One member who is licensed to practice medicine and surgery under subch. II of ch. 448 and who has experience with athletic training and sports medicine.

(c) One public member.

**(5) OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing, attached to the medical examining board, an occupational therapists affiliated credentialing board consisting of the following members appointed for 4-year terms:

(a) Three occupational therapists who are licensed under subch. VII of ch. 448.

(b) Two occupational therapy assistants who are licensed under subch. VI of ch. 448.

(c) Two public members.

**History:** 1993 a. 107, 443; 1997 a. 75, 175; 1999 a. 9, 180; 2001 a. 70.

**15.407 Same; councils. (1m) RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONERS EXAMINING COUNCIL.** There is created a respiratory care practitioners examining council in the department of regulation and licensing and serving the medical examining board in an advisory capacity in the formulating of rules to be promulgated by the medical examining board for the regulation of respiratory care practitioners. The respiratory care practitioners examining council shall consist of 3 certified respiratory care practitioners, each of whom shall have engaged in the practice of respiratory care for at least 3 years preceding appointment, one physician and one public member. The respiratory care practitioner and physician members shall be appointed by the medical examining board. The members of the examining council shall serve 3-year terms. Section 15.08 (1) to (4) (a) and (6) to (10) shall apply to the respiratory care practitioners examining council.

**(2) COUNCIL ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.** There is created a council on physician assistants in the department of regulation and licensing and serving the medical examining board in an advisory capacity. The council's membership shall consist of:

(a) The vice chancellor for health sciences of the University of Wisconsin—Madison or the vice chancellor's designee.

(b) One public member appointed by the governor for a 2-year term.

(c) Three physician assistants selected by the medical examining board for staggered 2-year terms.

**(2m) PERFUSIONISTS EXAMINING COUNCIL.** There is created a perfusionists examining council in the department of regulation and licensing and serving the medical examining board in an advisory capacity. The council shall consist of the following members appointed for 3-year terms:

(a) Three licensed perfusionists appointed by the medical examining board.

(b) One physician who is a cardiothoracic surgeon or a cardiovascular anesthesiologist and who is appointed by the medical examining board.

(c) One public member appointed by the governor.

**(3) EXAMINING COUNCILS; BOARD OF NURSING.** The following examining councils are created in the department of regulation and licensing to serve the board of nursing in an advisory capacity. Section 15.08 (1) to (4) (a) and (6) to (10), applies to the examining councils.

**(a) Registered nurses.** There is created an examining council on registered nurses to consist of 4 registered nurses of not less than 3 years' experience in nursing, appointed by the board of nursing for staggered 3-year terms.

**(b) Practical nurses.** There is created an examining council on licensed practical nurses to consist of one registered nurse, 3 licensed practical nurses and one registered nurse who is a faculty member of an accredited school for practical nurses, appointed by the board of nursing for staggered 3-year terms. No member may be a member of the examining council on registered nurses.

**(4) COUNCIL ON SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY.** There is created a council on speech-language pathology and audiology in the department of regulation and licensing and serving the hearing and speech examining board in an advisory capacity. The council shall consist of the following members appointed for 3-year terms:

(a) Three speech-language pathologists licensed under subch. II of ch. 459.

(b) Two audiologists licensed under subch. II of ch. 459.

**(5) COUNCIL ON REAL ESTATE CURRICULUM AND EXAMINATIONS.** There is created in the department of regulation and licensing a council on real estate curriculum and examinations consisting of 7 members appointed for 4-year terms. Five members shall be real estate brokers or salespersons licensed under ch. 452 and 2 members shall be public members. Of the real estate broker or salesperson members, one member shall be a member of the real estate board appointed by the real estate board, at least 2 members shall be

licensed real estate brokers with at least 5 years of experience as real estate brokers, and at least one member shall be a licensed real estate salesperson with at least 2 years of experience as a real estate salesperson. Of the 2 public members, at least one member shall have at least 2 years of experience in planning or presenting real estate educational programs. No member of the council may serve more than 2 consecutive terms.

**(6) PHARMACIST ADVISORY COUNCIL** There is created a pharmacist advisory council in the department of regulation and licensing and serving the pharmacy examining board in an advisory capacity. The council shall consist of the following members appointed for 3-year terms:

(a) Two pharmacists licensed under ch. 450 appointed by the chairperson of the pharmacy examining board.

(b) **One** physician licensed under subch. II of ch. 448 appointed by the chairperson of the medical examining board.

(c) One nurse licensed under ch. 441 appointed by the chairperson of the board of nursing.

**(7) MESSAGE THERAPY AND BODYWORK COUNCIL.** (a) There is created a massage therapy and bodywork council in the department of

regulation and licensing, serving the department in an advisory capacity. The council shall consist of 7 members, appointed for 4-year terms, who are massage therapists or bodyworkers certified under ch. 460 and who have engaged in the practice of massage therapy or bodywork for at least 2 years preceding appointment.

(b) In appointing members under par.(a), the governor shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the membership of the council is diverse, based on all of the following factors:

1. Massage or bodywork therapies practiced in this state.

2. Affiliation and nonaffiliation with a professional association for the practice of massage therapy or bodywork.

3. Professional associations with which massage therapists or bodyworkers in this state are affiliated.

4. Practice in urban and rural areas in this state.

**Note: Sub. (7) is created eff. 3-1-03 by 2001 Wis. Act 74.**

**History:** 1973c. 149; 1975c. 39, 86, 199, 383, 422; 1977c. 418; 1979c. 34 ss. 46, 53; 1981c. 390 s. 252; 1985a. 332 s. 251 (1); 1987a. 399; 1989a. 229, 316, 341, 359; 1991a. 316; 1993a. 105, 107; 1997a. 68, 175; 1997a. 237 s. 727m; 1999a. 32, 180, 186; 2001a. 14.89.

**CHAPTER 19**  
**GENERAL DUTIES OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

**SUBCHAPTER II**  
**PUBLIC RECORDS AND PROPERTY**

19.34 Procedural information

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**19.34 Procedural information. (1)** Each authority shall adopt, prominently display and make available for inspection and copying at its offices, for the guidance of the public, a notice containing a description of its organization and the established times and places at which, the legal custodian under s. 19.33 from whom, and the methods whereby, the public may obtain information and access to records in its custody, make requests for records, or obtain copies of records, and the costs thereof. This subsection does not apply to members of the legislature or to members of any local governmental body.

**(2)** (a) Each authority which maintains regular office hours at the location where records in the custody of the authority are kept shall permit access to the records of the authority at all times during those office hours, unless otherwise specifically authorized by law.

(b) Each authority which does not maintain regular office hours at the location where records in the custody of the authority are kept shall:

1. Permit access to its records upon at least 48 hours' written or oral notice of intent to inspect or copy a record; or

2. Establish a period of at least 2 consecutive hours per week during which access to the records of the authority is permitted. In such case, the authority may require 24 hours' advance written or oral notice of intent to inspect or copy a record.

(c) An authority imposing a notice requirement under par. (b) shall include a statement of the requirement in its notice under sub.(1), if the authority is required to adopt a notice under that subsection.

(d) If a record of an authority is occasionally taken to a location other than the location where records of the authority are regularly kept, and the record may be inspected at the place at which records of the authority are regularly kept upon one business day's notice, the authority or legal custodian of the record need not provide access to the record at the occasional location.

*History: 1981 c. 335.*

## CHAPTER 48 CHILDREN'S CODE

### SUBCHAPTER X X MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

48.981 Abused or neglected children and abused unborn children.

#### SUBCHAPTER XX MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

##### 48.981 Abused or neglected children and abused unborn children. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(ag) "Agency" means a county department, the department in a county having a population of 500,000 or more or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with a county department or the department in a county having a population of 500,000 or more to perform investigations under this section.

(am) "Caregiver" means, with respect to a child who is the victim or alleged victim of abuse or neglect or who is threatened with abuse or neglect, any of the following persons:

1. The child's parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

2. The child's guardian.

3. The child's legal custodian.

4. A person who resides or has resided regularly or intermittently in the same dwelling as the child.

5. An employee of a residential facility or residential care center for children and youth in which the child was or is placed.

6. A person who provides or has provided care for the child in or outside of the child's home.

7. Any other person who exercises or has exercised temporary or permanent control over the child or who temporarily or permanently supervises or has supervised the child.

8. Any relative of the child other than a relative specified in subd. 1.

(b) "Community placement" means probation; extended supervision; parole; aftercare; conditional transfer into the community under s. 51.35 (1); conditional transfer or discharge under s. 51.37 (9); placement in a Type 2 child caring institution or a Type 2 secured correctional facility authorized under s. 938.539 (5); conditional release under s. 971.17; supervised release under s. 980.06 or 980.08; participation in the community residential confinement program under s. 301.046, the intensive sanctions program under s. 301.048, the corrective sanctions program under s. 938.533, the intensive supervision program under s. 938.534 or the serious juvenile offender program under s. 938.538; or any other placement of an adult or juvenile offender in the community under the custody or supervision of the department of corrections, the department of health and family services, a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22, 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437 or any other person under contract with the department of corrections, the department of health and family services or a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22, 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437 to exercise custody or supervision over the offender.

(cs) "Indian child" means any unmarried person who is under the age of 18 years and is affiliated with an Indian tribe or band in any of the following ways:

1. As a member of the tribe or band.

2. As a person who is both eligible for membership in the tribe or band and is the biological child of a member of the tribe or band.

(ct) "Indian unborn child" means an unborn child who, when born, may be eligible for affiliation with an Indian tribe or band in any of the following ways:

1. As a member of the tribe or band.

2. As a person who is both eligible for membership in the tribe or band and the biological child of a member of the tribe or band.

(d) "Neglect" means failure, refusal or inability on the part of a parent, guardian, legal custodian or other person exercising temporary or permanent control over a child, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, medical or dental care or shelter so as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child.

(f) "Record" means any document relating to the investigation, assessment and disposition of a report under this section.

(fm) "Relative" means a parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, first cousin, 2nd cousin, nephew, niece, uncle, aunt, step-grandparent, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, step-uncle, or step-aunt.

(g) "Reporter" means a person who reports suspected abuse or neglect or a belief that abuse or neglect will occur under this section.

(h) "Subject" means a person or unborn child named in a report or record as any of the following:

1. A child who is the victim or alleged victim of abuse or neglect or who is threatened with abuse or neglect. 1m. An unborn child who is the victim or alleged victim of abuse or who is at substantial risk of abuse.

2. A person who is suspected of abuse or neglect or who has been determined to have abused or neglected a child or to have abused an unborn child.

(i) "Tribal agent" means the person designated under 25 CFR 23.12 by an Indian tribe or band to receive notice of involuntary child custody proceedings under the Indian child welfare act, 25 USC 1901 to 1963.

(2) PERSONS REQUIRED TO REPORT. (a) [ , group home, as described in s. 48.625 (1m),] Any of the following persons who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child seen by the person in the course of professional duties has been abused or neglected or who has reason to believe that a child seen by the person in the course of professional duties has been threatened with abuse or neglect and that abuse or neglect of the child will occur shall, except as provided under sub. (2m), report as provided in sub. (3):

NOTE: The bracketed language was inserted into s. 48.981 (2) by 2001 Wis. Act 69, but was not taken into account by the treatment of s. 48.981 (2) by 2001 Wis. Act 103. Corrective legislation to move the language to its correct location in subd. 18. is pending.

1. A physician.

2. A coroner.

3. A medical examiner.

4. A nurse.

5. A dentist.

6. A chiropractor.

7. An optometrist.

8. An acupuncturist.

9. A medical or mental health professional not otherwise specified in this paragraph.

10. A social worker.

11. A marriage and family therapist.

12. A professional counselor.

13. A public assistance worker, including a financial and employment planner, as defined in s. 49.141 (1) (d).

14. A school teacher.

15. A school administrator

16. A school counselor.

17. A mediator under s. 767.11.

18. A child-care worker in a day care center [ , group home, as described in s. 48.625 (1m),] or residential care center for children and youth.

NOTE: The bracketed language was inserted into s. 48.981 (2) by 2001 Wis. Act 69, but was not taken into account by the treatment of s. 48.981 (2) by 2001 Wis. Act 103. Corrective legislation to move the language to its correct location in subd. 18. is pending.

19. A day care provider.

20. An alcohol or other drug abuse counselor.

21. A member of the treatment staff employed by or working under contract with a county department under s. 46.23, 51.42, or 51.437 or a residential care center for children and youth.

22. A physical therapist. 22m. A physical therapist assistant.

NOTE: 2001 Wis. Act 70 creates the term "physical therapist assistant" and provides for the licensing of physical therapist assistants effective 4-1-04.

23. An occupational therapist.

24. A dietitian.

25. A speech-language pathologist.
26. An audiologist.
27. An emergency medical technician.
28. A first responder.
29. A police or law enforcement officer.

(b) A court-appointed special advocate who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child seen in the course of activities under s. 48.236 (3) has been abused or neglected or who has reason to believe that a child seen in the course of those activities has been threatened with abuse and neglect and that abuse or neglect of the child will occur shall, except as provided in sub. (2m), report as provided in sub. (3).

(c) Any person not otherwise specified in par. (a) or (b), including an attorney, who has reason to suspect that a child has been abused or neglected or who has reason to believe that a child has been threatened with abuse or neglect and that abuse or neglect of the child will occur may report as provided in sub. (3).

(d) Any person, including an attorney, who has reason to suspect that an unborn child has been abused or who has reason to believe that an unborn child is at substantial risk of abuse may report as provided in sub. (3).

(e) No person making a report under this subsection may be discharged from employment for so doing.

**(2m) EXCEPTION TO REPORTING REQUIREMENT.** (a) The purpose of this subsection is to allow children to obtain confidential health care services.

(b) In this subsection:

1. "Health care provider" means a physician, as defined under s. 448.01 (5), a physician assistant, as defined under s. 448.01 (6), or a nurse holding a certificate of registration under s. 441.06 (1) or a license under s. 441.10 (3).

2. "Health care service" means family planning services, as defined in s. 253.07 (1) (b), 1995 stats., pregnancy testing, obstetrical health care or screening, diagnosis and treatment for a sexually transmitted disease.

(c) Except as provided under pars. (d) and (e), the following persons are not required to report as suspected or threatened abuse, as defined in s. 48.02 (1) (b), sexual intercourse or sexual contact involving a child:

1. A health care provider who provides any health care service to a child.

4. A person who obtains information about a child who is receiving or has received health care services from a health care provider.

(d) Any person described under par. (c) 1. or 4. shall report as required under sub. (2) if he or she has reason to suspect any of the following:

1. That the sexual intercourse or sexual contact occurred or is likely to occur with a caregiver.

2. That the child suffered or suffers from a mental illness or mental deficiency that rendered or renders the child temporarily or permanently incapable of understanding or evaluating the consequences of his or her actions.

3. That the child, because of his or her age or immaturity, was or is incapable of understanding the nature or consequences of sexual intercourse or sexual contact.

4. That the child was unconscious at the time of the act or for any other reason was physically unable to communicate unwillingness to engage in sexual intercourse or sexual contact.

5. That another participant in the sexual contact or sexual intercourse was or is exploiting the child.

(e) In addition to the reporting requirements under par. (d), a person described under par. (c) 1. or 4. shall report as required under sub. (2) if he or she has any reasonable doubt as to the voluntariness of the child's participation in the sexual contact or sexual intercourse.

**(3) REPORTS; INVESTIGATION.** (a) *Referral of report.* 1. A person required to report under sub. (2) shall immediately inform, by telephone or personally, the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department or the sheriff or city, village, or town police department of the facts and circumstances contributing to a suspicion of child abuse or neglect or of unborn child abuse or to a belief that abuse or neglect will occur.

2. The sheriff or police department shall within 12 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays, refer to the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under

contract with the department all cases reported to it. The county department, department, or licensed child welfare agency may require that a subsequent report be made in writing.

3. A county department, the department, or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall within 12 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays, refer to the sheriff or police department all cases of suspected or threatened abuse, as defined in s. 48.02 (1) (b) to (f), reported to it. For cases of suspected or threatened abuse, as defined in s. 48.02 (1) (a), (am), or (gm), or neglect, each county department, the department, and a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall adopt a written policy specifying the kinds of reports it will routinely report to local law enforcement authorities.

4. If the report is of suspected or threatened abuse, as defined in s. 48.02 (1) (b) to (f), the sheriff or police department and the county department, department, or licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall coordinate the planning and execution of the investigation of the report.

**(b) Duties of local law enforcement agencies.** 1. Any person reporting under this section may request an immediate investigation by the sheriff or police department if the person has reason to suspect that the health or safety of a child or of an unborn child is in immediate danger. Upon receiving such a request, the sheriff or police department shall immediately investigate to determine if there is reason to believe that the health or safety of the child or unborn child is in immediate danger and take any necessary action to protect the child or unborn child.

2. If the investigating officer has reason under s. 48.19 (1) (c) or (cm) or (d) 5. or 8. to take a child into custody, the investigating officer shall take the child into custody and deliver the child to the intake worker under s. 48.20. 2m. If the investigating officer has reason under s. 48.193 (1) (c) or (d) 2. to take the adult expectant mother of an unborn child into custody, the investigating officer shall take the adult expectant mother into custody and deliver the adult expectant mother to the intake worker under s. 48.203.

3. If the sheriff or police department determines that criminal action is necessary, the sheriff or police department shall refer the case to the district attorney for criminal prosecution. Each sheriff and police department shall adopt a written policy specifying the kinds of reports of suspected or threatened abuse, as defined in s. 48.02 (1) (b) to (f), that the sheriff or police department will routinely refer to the district attorney for criminal prosecution.

**(bm) Notice of report to Indian tribal agent.** In a county which has wholly or partially within its boundaries a federally recognized Indian reservation or a bureau of Indian affairs service area for the Ho-Chunk tribe, if a county department which receives a report under par. (a) pertaining to a child or unborn child knows that the child is an Indian child who resides in the county or that the unborn child is an Indian unborn child whose expectant mother resides in the county, the county department shall provide notice, which shall consist only of the name and address of the child or expectant mother and the fact that a report has been received about that child or unborn child, within 24 hours to one of the following:

1. If the county department knows with which tribe or band the child is affiliated, or with which tribe or band the unborn child, when born, may be eligible for affiliation, and it is a Wisconsin tribe or band, the tribal agent of that tribe or band.

2. If the county department does not know with which tribe or band the child is affiliated, or with which tribe or band the unborn child, when born, may be eligible for affiliation, or the child or expectant mother is not affiliated with a Wisconsin tribe or band, the tribal agent serving the reservation or Ho-Chunk service area where the child or expectant mother resides.

3. If neither subd. 1. nor 2. applies, any tribal agent serving a reservation or Ho-Chunk service area in the county.

**(c) Duties of county departments.** 1. Within 24 hours after receiving a report under par. (a), the agency shall, in accordance with the authority granted to the department under s. 48.48 (17) (a) 1. or the county department under s. 48.57 (1) (a), initiate a diligent investigation to determine if the child or unborn child is in need of protection or services. The investigation shall be conducted in accordance with standards established by the department for conducting child abuse and neglect investigations or unborn child abuse investigations. If the investigation is of a report of child abuse or neglect or of threatened child abuse or neglect by a caregiver specified in sub. (1) (am) 5. to 8. who continues to have access to the child or a caregiver specified in Sub. (1) (am) 1. to 4., or of a report that does not disclose who is suspected of the child abuse or



neglect and in which the investigation does not disclose who abused or neglected the child, the investigation shall also include observation of or an interview with the child, or both, and, if possible, an interview with the child's parents, guardian or legal custodian. If the investigation is of a report of child abuse or neglect or threatened child abuse or neglect by a caregiver who continues to reside in the same dwelling as the child, the investigation shall also include, if possible, a visit to that dwelling. At the initial visit to the child's dwelling, the person making the investigation shall identify himself or herself and the agency involved to the child's parents, guardian or legal custodian. The agency may contact, observe or interview the child at any location without permission from the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian if necessary to determine if the child is in need of protection or services, except that the person making the investigation may enter a child's dwelling only with permission from the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian or after obtaining a court order to do so.

2. a. If the person making the investigation is an employee of the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department and he or she determines that it is consistent with the child's best interest in terms of physical safety and physical health to remove the child from his or her home for immediate protection, he or she shall take the child into custody under s. 48.08 (2) or 48.19 (1) (c) and deliver the child to the intake worker under s. 48.20.

b. If the person making the investigation is an employee of a licensed child welfare agency which is under contract with the county department and he or she determines that any child in the home requires immediate protection, he or she shall notify the county department of the circumstances and together with an employee of the county department shall take the child into custody under s. 48.08 (2) or 48.19 (1) (c) and deliver the child to the intake worker under s. 48.20.

2m. a. If the person making the investigation is an employee of the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department and he or she determines that it is consistent with the best interest of the unborn child in terms of physical safety and physical health to take the expectant mother into custody for the immediate protection of the unborn child, he or she shall take the expectant mother into custody under s. 48.08 (2), 48.19 (1) (cm) or 48.193 (1) (c) and deliver the expectant mother to the intake worker under s. 48.20 or 48.203.

b. If the person making the investigation is an employee of a licensed child welfare agency which is under contract with the county department and he or she determines that any unborn child requires immediate protection, he or she shall notify the county department of the circumstances and together with an employee of the county department shall take the expectant mother of the unborn child into custody under s. 48.08 (2), 48.19 (1) (cm) or 48.193 (1) (c) and deliver the expectant mother to the intake worker under s. 48.20 or 48.203.

3. If the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department determines that a child, any member of the child's family or the child's guardian or legal custodian is in need of services or that the expectant mother of an unborn child is in need of services, the county department, department or licensed child welfare agency shall offer to provide appropriate services or to make arrangements for the provision of services. If the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian or the expectant mother refuses to accept the services, the county department, department or licensed child welfare agency may request that a petition be filed under s. 48.13 alleging that the child who is the subject of the report or any other child in the home is in need of protection or services or that a petition be filed under s. 48.133 alleging that the unborn child who is the subject of the report is in need of protection or services.

4. The county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall determine, within 60 days after receipt of a report, whether abuse or neglect has occurred or is likely to occur. The determination shall be based on a preponderance of the evidence produced by the investigation. A determination that abuse or neglect has occurred may not be based solely on the fact that the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian in good faith selects and relies on prayer or other religious means for treatment of

disease or for remedial care of the child. In making a determination that emotional damage has occurred, the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall give due regard to the culture of the subjects. This subdivision does not prohibit a court from ordering medical services for the child if the child's health requires it.

5. The agency shall maintain a record of its actions in connection with each report it receives. The record shall include a description of the services provided to any child and to the parents, guardian or legal custodian of the child or to any expectant mother of an unborn child. The agency shall update the record every 6 months until the case is closed.

5m. If the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department determines under subd. 4. that a specific person has abused or neglected a child, the county department, department or licensed child welfare agency, within 15 days after the date of the determination, shall notify the person in writing of the determination, the person's right to appeal the determination and the procedure by which the person may appeal the determination, and the person may appeal the determination in accordance with the procedures established by the department under this subdivision. The department shall promulgate rules establishing procedures for conducting an appeal under this subdivision. Those procedures shall include a procedure permitting an appeal under this subdivision to be held in abeyance pending the outcome of any criminal proceedings or any proceedings under s. 48.13 based on the alleged abuse or neglect or the outcome of any investigation that may lead to the filing of a criminal complaint or a petition under s. 48.13 based on the alleged abuse or neglect.

6. The agency shall, within 60 days after it receives a report from a person required under sub. (2) to report, inform the reporter what action, if any, was taken to protect the health and welfare of the child or unborn child who is the subject of the report.

6m. If a person who is not required under sub. (2) to report makes a report and is a relative of the child, other than the child's parent, or is a relative of the expectant mother of the unborn child, that person may make a written request to the agency for information regarding what action, if any, was taken to protect the health and welfare of the child or unborn child who is the subject of the report. An agency that receives a written request under this subdivision shall, within 60 days after it receives the report or 20 days after it receives the written request, whichever is later, inform the reporter in writing of what action, if any, was taken to protect the health and welfare of the child or unborn child, unless a court order prohibits that disclosure, and of the duty to keep the information confidential under sub. (7) (e) and the penalties for failing to do so under sub. (7) (f). The agency may petition the court ex parte for an order prohibiting that disclosure and, if the agency does so, the time period within which the information must be disclosed is tolled on the date the petition is filed and remains tolled until the court issues a decision. The court may hold an ex parte hearing in camera and shall issue an order granting the petition if the court determines that disclosure of the information would not be in the best interests of the child or unborn child.

7. The county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall cooperate with law enforcement officials, courts of competent jurisdiction, tribal governments and other human services agencies to prevent, identify and treat child abuse and neglect and unborn child abuse. The county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall coordinate the development and provision of services to abused and neglected children, to abused unborn children to families in which child abuse or neglect has occurred, to expectant mothers who have abused their unborn children, to children and families when circumstances justify a belief that abuse or neglect will occur and to the expectant mothers of unborn children when circumstances justify a belief that unborn child abuse will occur.

8. Using the format prescribed by the department, each county department shall provide the department with information about each report that the county department receives or that is received by a licensed child welfare agency that is under contract with the county department and about each investigation that the county department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with

the county department conducts. Using the format prescribed by the department, a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department shall provide the department with information about each report that the child welfare agency receives and about each investigation that the child welfare agency conducts. This information shall be used by the department to monitor services provided by county departments or licensed child welfare agencies under contract with county departments or the department. The department shall use non-identifying information to maintain statewide statistics on child abuse and neglect and on unborn child abuse, and for planning and policy development purposes.

9. The agency may petition for child abuse restraining orders and injunctions under s. 48.25 (6).

(cm) Contract with licensed child welfare agencies. A county department may contract with a licensed child welfare agency to fulfill the county department's duties specified under par. (c) 1., 2.b., 2m.b., 5., 6., 6m. and 8. The department may contract with a licensed child welfare agency to fulfill the department's duties specified under par. (c) 1., 2.a., 2m.b., 3., 4., 5., 5m., 6., 6m., 7., 8. and 9. in a county having a population of 500,000 or more. The confidentiality provisions specified in sub. (7) shall apply to any licensed child welfare agency with which a county department or the department contracts.

(d) **Independent investigation.** 1. In this paragraph, "agent" includes, but is not limited to, a foster parent, treatment foster parent or other person given custody of a child or a human services professional employed by a county department under s. 51.42 or 51.437 or by a child welfare agency who is working with a child or an expectant mother of an unborn child under contract with or under the supervision of the department in a county having a population of 500,000 or more or a county department under s. 46.22.

2. If an agent or employee of an agency required to investigate under this subsection is the subject of a report, or if the agency determines that, because of the relationship between the agency and the subject of a report, there is a substantial probability that the agency would not conduct an unbiased investigation, the agency shall, after taking any action necessary to protect the child or unborn child, notify the department. Upon receipt of the notice, the department, in a county having a population of less than 500,000 or a county department or child welfare agency designated by the department in any county shall conduct an independent investigation. If the department designates a county department under s. 46.22, 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437, that county department shall conduct the independent investigation. If a licensed child welfare agency agrees to conduct the independent investigation, the department may designate the child welfare agency to do so. The powers and duties of the department or designated county department or child welfare agency making an independent investigation are those given to county departments under par. (c).

(4) **IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY.** Any person or institution participating in good faith in the making of a report, conducting an investigation, ordering or taking of photographs or ordering or performing medical examinations of a child or of an expectant mother under this section shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that results by reason of the action. For the purpose of any proceeding, civil or criminal, the good faith of any person reporting under this section shall be presumed. The immunity provided under this subsection does not apply to liability for abusing or neglecting a child or for abusing an unborn child.

(5) **CORONER'S REPORT.** Any person or official required to report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child died as a result of child abuse or neglect shall report the fact to the appropriate medical examiner or coroner. The medical examiner or coroner shall accept the report for investigation and shall report the findings to the appropriate district attorney; to the department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, to a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department; to the county department and, if the institution making the report initially is a hospital, to the hospital.

(6) **PENALTY.** Whoever intentionally violates this section by failure to report as required may be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than 6 months or both.

(7) **CONFIDENTIALITY.** (a) All reports made under this section, notices provided under sub. (3) (bm) and records maintained by an agency and other persons, officials and institutions shall be confidential. Reports and records may be disclosed only to the following persons:

1. The subject of a report, except that the person or agency maintaining the record or report may not disclose any information that would identify the reporter.

1m. A reporter described in sub. (3) (c) 6m. who makes a written request to an agency for information regarding what action, if any, was taken to protect the health and welfare of the child or unborn child who is the subject of the report, unless a court order under sub. (3) (c) 6m. prohibits disclosure of that information to that reporter, except that the only information that may be disclosed is information in the record regarding what action, if any, was taken to protect the health and welfare of the child or unborn child who is the subject of the report.

2. Appropriate staff of an agency or a tribal social services department.

2m. A person authorized to provide or providing intake or dispositional services for the court under s. 48.067, 48.069 or 48.10. 2r. A person authorized to provide or providing intake or dispositional services under s. 938.067, 938.069 or 938.10.

3. An attending physician for purposes of diagnosis and treatment.

3m. A child's parent, guardian or legal custodian or the expectant mother of an unborn child, except that the person or agency maintaining the record or report may not disclose any information that would identify the reporter.

4. A child's foster parent, treatment foster parent or other person having physical custody of the child or a person having physical custody of the expectant mother of an unborn child, except that the person or agency maintaining the record or report may not disclose any information that would identify the reporter.

5. A professional employee of a county department under s. 51.42 or 51.437 who is working with the child or the expectant mother of the unborn child under contract with or under the supervision of the county department under s. 46.22 or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department.

6. A multidisciplinary child abuse and neglect or unborn child abuse team recognized by the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department.

6m. A person employed by a child advocacy center recognized by the county board, the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department, to the extent necessary to perform the services for which the center is recognized by the county board, the county department, the department or the licensed child welfare agency.

8. A law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency or a district attorney for purposes of investigation or prosecution.

8m. The department of corrections, the department of health and family services, a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22, 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437 or any other person under contract with the department of corrections, the department of health and family services or a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22, 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437 to exercise custody or supervision over a person who is subject to community placement for purposes of investigating or providing services to a person who is subject to community placement and who is the subject of a report. In making its investigation, the department of corrections, department of health and family services, county department or other person shall cooperate with the agency making the investigation under sub. (3) (c) ~~or~~ (d).

9. A court or administrative agency for use in a proceeding relating to the licensing or regulation of a facility regulated under this chapter.

10. A court conducting proceedings under s. 48.21 or 48.213, a court conducting proceedings related to a petition under s. 48.13, 48.133 or 48.42 or a court conducting dispositional proceedings under subch. VI or VIII in which abuse or neglect of the child who is the subject of the report or record or abuse of the unborn child who is the subject of the report or record is an issue.

10g. A court conducting proceedings under s. 48.21, a court conducting proceedings related to a petition under s. 48.13 (3m) or (10m) or a court conducting dispositional proceedings under subch. VI in which an issue is the substantial risk of abuse or neglect of a child who, during the time period covered by the report or record, was in the home of the child who is the subject of the report or record.

10j. A court conducting proceedings under s. 938.21, a court conducting proceedings relating to a petition under ch. 938 or a

court conducting dispositional proceedings under subch. VI of ch. 938 in which abuse or neglect of the child who is the subject of the report or record is an issue.

10m. **A** tribal court, or other adjudicative body authorized by a tribe or band to perform child welfare functions, that exercises jurisdiction over children and unborn children alleged to be in need of protection or services for use in proceedings in which abuse or neglect of the child who is the subject of the report or record or abuse of the unborn child who is the subject of the report or record is an issue.

10r. **A** tribal court, or other adjudicative body authorized by a tribe or band to perform child welfare functions, that exercises jurisdiction over children alleged to be in need of protection or services for use in proceedings in which an issue is the substantial risk of abuse or neglect of a child who, during the time period covered by the report or record, was in the home of the child who is the subject of the report or record.

11. The county corporation counsel or district attorney representing the interests of the public, the agency legal counsel and the counsel or guardian ad litem representing the interests of a child in proceedings under subd. 10., 10g. or 10j. and the guardian ad litem representing the interests of an unborn child in proceedings under subd. 10.

11m. An attorney representing the interests of an Indian tribe or band in proceedings under subd. 10m. or 10r., of an Indian child in proceedings under subd. 10m. or 10r. or of an Indian unborn child in proceedings under subd. 10m.

11r. **A** volunteer court-appointed special advocate designated under s. 48.236 (1) or person employed by a court-appointed special advocate program recognized by the chief judge of a judicial administrative district under s. 48.07 (5), to the extent necessary for the court-appointed special advocate to perform the advocacy services specified in s. 48.236 (3) that the court-appointed special advocate was designated to perform in proceedings related to a petition under s. 48.13.

12. **A** person engaged in bona fide research, with the permission of the department. Information identifying subjects and reporters may not be disclosed to the researcher.

13. The department, a county department under s. 48.57 (1) (e) or (hm) or a licensed child welfare agency ordered to conduct a screening or an investigation of a stepparent under s. 48.88 (2) (c).

14. **A** grand jury if it determines that access to specified records is necessary for the conduct of its official business. 14m. **A** judge conducting proceedings under s. 968.26.

15. **A** child fatality review team recognized by the county department or, in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department.

15g. **A** citizen review panel established or designated by the department or a county department.

15m. **A** coroner, medical examiner or pathologist or other physician investigating the cause of death of a child whose death is unexplained or unusual or is associated with unexplained or suspicious circumstances.

17. **A** federal agency, state agency of this state or any other state or local governmental unit located in this state or any other state that has a need for a report or record in order to carry out its responsibility to protect children from abuse or neglect or to protect unborn children from abuse.

(am) Notwithstanding par. (a) (intro.), a tribal agent who receives notice under sub. (3) (bm) may disclose the notice to a tribal social services department.

(b) Notwithstanding par. (a), either parent of a child may authorize the disclosure of a record for use in a child custody proceeding under s. 767.24 or 767.325 or in an adoption proceeding under s. 48.833, 48.835, 48.837 or 48.839 when the child has been the subject of a report. Any information that would identify a reporter shall be deleted before disclosure of a record under this paragraph.

(c) Notwithstanding par. (a), the subject of a report may authorize the disclosure of a record to the subject's attorney. The authorization shall be in writing. Any information that would identify a reporter shall be deleted before disclosure of a record under this paragraph.

(cm) Notwithstanding par. (a), an agency may disclose information from its records for use in proceedings under s. 48.25 (6), 813.122 or 813.125.

(cr) 1. Notwithstanding par. (a) and subject to subd. 3., an agency may disclose to the general public a written summary of the information specified in subd. 2. relating to any child who has died

or been placed in serious or critical condition, as determined by a physician, as a result of any suspected abuse or neglect that has been reported under this section if any of the following circumstances apply:

a. **A** person has been charged with a crime for causing the death or serious or critical condition of the child as a result of the suspected abuse or neglect, or the district attorney indicates that a person who is deceased would have been charged with a crime for causing the death or serious or critical condition of the child as a result of the suspected abuse or neglect, but for the fact that the person is deceased.

b. **A** judge, district attorney, law enforcement officer, law enforcement agency or any other officer or agency whose official duties include the investigation or prosecution of crime has previously disclosed to the public, in the performance of the official duties of the officer or agency, that the suspected abuse or neglect of the child has been investigated under sub. (3) or that child welfare services have been provided to the child or the child's family under this chapter.

c. **A** parent, guardian or legal custodian of the child or the child, if 14 years of age or over, has previously disclosed or authorized the disclosure of the information specified in subd. 2.

2. If an agency is permitted to disclose information under subd. 1. relating to a child who has died or been placed in serious or critical condition as a result of any suspected abuse or neglect that has been reported under this section, the agency may disclose all of the following information from its records:

a. **A** description of any investigation made by the agency in response to the report of the suspected abuse or neglect, a statement of the determination made by the agency under sub. (3) (c) 4. with respect to the report and the basis for that determination, a statement of whether any services were offered or provided to the child, the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect and a statement of whether any other action was taken by the agency to protect the child who is the subject of the report or any other child residing in the same dwelling as the child who is the subject of the report.

b. Whether any previous report of suspected or threatened abuse or neglect of the child has been made to the agency and the date of the report, a statement of the determination made by the agency under sub. (3) (c) 4. with respect to the report and the basis for that determination, a statement of whether any services were offered or provided to the child, the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect and a statement of whether any other action was taken by the agency to protect the child who is the subject of the report or any other child residing in the same dwelling as the child who is the subject of the report.

c. Whether the child or the child's family has received any services under this chapter prior to the report of suspected abuse or neglect that caused the child's death or serious or critical condition or any previous report of suspected or threatened abuse or neglect.

3. An agency may not disclose any of the information described in subd. 2. if any of the following applies:

a. The agency determines that disclosure of the information would be contrary to the best interests of the child who is the subject of the report, the child's siblings or any other child residing in the same dwelling as the child who is the subject of the report or that disclosure of the information is likely to cause mental, emotional or physical harm or danger to the child who is the subject of the report, the child's siblings, any other child residing in the same dwelling as the child who is the subject of the report or any other person.

b. The district attorney determines that disclosure of the information would jeopardize any ongoing or future criminal investigation or prosecution or would jeopardize a defendant's right to a fair trial.

c. The agency determines that disclosure of the information would jeopardize any ongoing or future civil investigation or proceeding or would jeopardize the fairness of such a proceeding.

d. Disclosure of the information is not authorized by state law or rule or federal law or regulation.

e. The investigation under sub. (3) of the report of the suspected abuse or neglect has not been completed, in which case the agency may only disclose that the report is under investigation.

f. Disclosure of the information would reveal the identity of the child who is the subject of the report, the child's siblings, the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian or any other person residing in the same dwelling as the child, and information that would reveal

the identity of those persons has not previously been disclosed to the public.

g. Disclosure of the information would reveal the identity of a reporter or any other person who provides information relating to the suspected abuse or neglect of the child.

4. Any person who requests the information specified in subd.2. under the circumstances specified in subd.1. and whose request is denied may petition the court to order the disclosure of that information. On receiving a petition under this subdivision, the court shall notify the agency, the district attorney, the child and the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian of the petition. If any person notified objects to the disclosure, the court may hold a hearing to take evidence and hear argument relating to the disclosure of the information. The court shall make an in camera inspection of the information sought to be disclosed and shall order disclosure of the information, unless the court finds that any of the circumstances specified in subd.3. apply.

5. Any person acting in good faith in disclosing or refusing to disclose the information specified in subd.2. under the circumstances specified in subd.1. is immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that may result by reason of that disclosure or nondisclosure. For purposes of any proceeding, civil or criminal, the good faith of a person in disclosing or refusing to disclose the information specified in subd.2. under the circumstances specified in subd.1. shall be presumed.

(d) Notwithstanding par. (a), the department may have access to any report or record maintained by an agency under this section.

(e) A person to whom a report or record is disclosed under this subsection may not further disclose it, except to the persons and for the purposes specified in this section.

(f) Any person who violates this subsection, or who permits or encourages the unauthorized dissemination or use of information contained in reports and records made under this section, may be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than 6 months or both.

**(8) EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION.** (a) The department, the county departments, and a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department in a county having a population of 500,000 or more to the extent feasible shall conduct continuing education and training programs for staff of the department, the county departments, licensed child welfare agencies under contract with the department or a county department, law enforcement agencies, and the tribal social services departments, persons and officials required to report, the general public, and others as appropriate. The programs shall be designed to encourage reporting of child abuse and neglect and of unborn child abuse, to encourage self-reporting and voluntary acceptance of services and to improve communication, cooperation, and coordination in the identification, prevention, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and of unborn child abuse. Programs provided for staff of the department, county departments, and licensed child welfare agencies under contract with county departments or the department whose responsibilities include the investigation or treatment of child abuse or neglect shall also be designed to provide information on means of recognizing and appropriately responding to domestic abuse, as defined in s. 46.95 (1) (a). The department, the county departments, and a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department in a county having a population of 500,000 or more shall develop public information programs about child abuse and neglect and about unborn child abuse.

(b) The department shall to the extent feasible ensure that there are available in the state administrative procedures, personnel trained in child abuse and neglect and in unborn child abuse, multidisciplinary programs and operational procedures and capabilities to deal effectively with child abuse and neglect cases and with unborn child abuse cases. These procedures and capabilities may include, but are not limited to, receipt, investigation and verification of reports; determination of treatment or ameliorative social services; or referral to the appropriate court.

(c) In meeting its responsibilities under par. (a) or (b), the department, a county department or a licensed child welfare agency under contract with the department in a county having a population of 500,000 or more may contract with any public or private organization which meets the standards set by the department. In entering into the contracts the department, county department or licensed child welfare agency shall give priority to parental organizations combating child abuse and neglect or unborn child abuse.

(d) 1. Each agency staff member and supervisor whose responsibilities include investigation or treatment of child abuse and neglect or of unborn child abuse shall successfully complete training in child abuse and neglect protective services and in unborn child abuse protective services approved by the department. The training shall include information on means of recognizing and appropriately responding to domestic abuse, as defined in s. 46.95 (1) (a). The department shall monitor compliance with this subdivision according to rules promulgated by the department.

2. Each year the department shall make available training programs that permit intake workers and agency staff members and supervisors to satisfy the requirements under subd.1. and s. 48.06 (1) (am) 3. and (2) (c).

**(9) ANNUAL REPORTS.** Annually, the department shall prepare and transmit to the governor, and to the legislature under s.

13.172 (2), a report on the status of child abuse and neglect programs and on the status of unborn child abuse programs. The report shall include a full statistical analysis of the child abuse and neglect reports, and the unborn child abuse reports, made through the last calendar year, an evaluation of services offered under this section and their effectiveness, and recommendations for additional legislative and other action to fulfill the purpose of this section. The department shall provide statistical breakdowns by county, if requested by a county.

**(10) CURRENT LIST OF TRIBAL AGENTS.** The department shall annually provide to each agency described in sub. (3) (bm) (intro.) a current list of all tribal agents in the state.

History: Sup. Ct. Order, 59 Wis. 2d R1, R3 (1973); 1977 c. 355; 1977 c. 447 s. 210; 1979 c. 300; 1983 a. 172, 190, 299, 538; 1985 a. 29 ss. 917 to 930m, 3200 (56); 1985 a. 176, 234; 1987 a. 27, 186, 209; 1987 a. 332 s. 64; 1987 a. 334, 355, 399, 403; 1989 a. 31, 41, 102, 316, 359; 1991 a. 160, 263; 1993 a. 16, 105, 218, 227, 230, 246, 272, 318, 395, 443, 446, 491; 1995 a. 275, 289, 369, 456; 1997 a. 21, 114, 292, 293; 1999 a. 9, 20, 32, 56, 84, 149, 192; 2001 a. 16, 38, 59, 69, 70, 103, 105.

Even if the authority for a warrantless search can be inferred from ch. 48, those provisions cannot supercede the constitutional provisions prohibiting unreasonable searches and seizures. *State v. Boggess*, 115 Wis. 2d 443, 340 N.W.2d 516 (1983).

Section 48.981, 1983 stats., is not unconstitutionally vague. *State v. Hurd*, 135 Wis. 2d 266, 400 N.W.2d 42 (Ct. App. 1986).

Immunity under sub. (4) extends to reporters who report the necessary information to another who they expect to and who does report to proper authorities. Investigating the allegation prior to reporting does not run afoul of the immediate reporting requirement of sub. (3) and does not affect immunity. Allegations of negligence by reporters are not sufficient to challenge the good faith requirement of sub. (4). *Phillips v. Behnke*, 192 Wis. 2d 552, 531 N.W.2d 619 (Ct. App. 1995).

To overcome the presumption of good faith under sub. (4), more than a violation of sub. (3) is required. It must also be shown that the violation was "conscious" or "intentional." *Drake v. Huber*, 218 Wis. 2d 672, 582 N.W.2d 74 (Ct. App. 1998).

This section provides no basis for civil liability against a person who may, but is not required to, report abuse. *Gritzner v. Michael R.* 2000 WI 68, 235 Wis. 2d 781, 611 N.W.2d 906.

To "disclose" information under sub. (7), the recipient must have been previously unaware of the information at the time of the communication. The state has the burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the disclosure took place. Sub. (7) is a strict liability statute; intent is not an element of a violation. *State v. Polashek*, 2002 WI 74, \_\_\_ Wis. 2d \_\_\_, 646 N.W.2d 330.

The duty to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect under s. 48.981 (3) (a) prevails over any inconsistent terms in s. 51.30. 68 Att'y. Gen. 342.

Consensual sexual conduct involving a 16 and 17 year old does not constitute child abuse. 72 Att'y. Gen. 93.

Medical or mental health professionals may report suspected child abuse under the permissive provisions of sub. (2) when the abuser, rather than victim, is seen in the course of professional duties. Section 51.30 does not bar such reports made in good faith. 76 Att'y. Gen. 39.

Contracting out for services under this section is discussed. 76 Att'y. Gen. 286. Disclosure under sub. (7) (a) 1. and (c) is mandatory. 77 Att'y. Gen. 84.

The responsibility of county departments of social services to investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect is discussed. Department staff members may interview a child on public school property and may exclude school personnel from the interview. School personnel cannot condition on-site interviews on notification of the child's parents. 79 Att'y. Gen. 48.

Members of a social services board in a county with a county executive or a county administrator may be granted access to child abuse and neglect files under s. 48.981 if access is necessary for the performance of their statutory duties. 79 Att'y. Gen. 212.

A district attorney or corporation counsel may reveal the contents of a report made under s. 48.981 in the course of a criminal prosecution or one of the civil proceedings enumerated under sub. (7) (a) 10. 81 Att'y. Gen. 66.

County departments have authority to transport a child to a county-recognized child advocacy center for the purpose of an investigatory interview without consent of the primary caretaker, if to do so is necessary to an investigation of alleged child maltreatment. OAG 3-98.

The confrontation clause does not require a defendant's access to confidential child abuse reports; due process requires that the court undertake an in camera inspection of the file to determine whether it contains material exculpatory evidence. *Pennsylvania v. Ritchie*, 480 U.S. 39 (1987).

This section does not authorize a private cause of action for failure to report. *Isley v. Capucian Province*, 880 F. Supp. 1138 (1995).

## CHAPTER 146

### MISCELLANEOUS HEALTH PROVISIONS

146.81 Health care records; definitions.  
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**146.81 Health care records; definitions.** In ss. 146.81 to 146.84:

**(1)** "Health care provider" means any of the following:

- (a) A nurse licensed under ch. 441.
- (b) A chiropractor licensed under ch. 446.
- (c) A dentist licensed under ch. 447.
- (d) A physician, physician assistant, perfusionist, or respiratory care practitioner licensed or certified under subch. II of ch. 448.
- (dg) A physical therapist licensed under subch. III of ch. 448.
- (dr) A podiatrist licensed under subch. IV of ch. 448.
- (em) A dietitian certified under subch. V of ch. 448.
- (eq) An athletic trainer licensed under subch. VI of ch. 448.
- (es) An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant licensed under subch. VII of ch. 448.

- (f) An optometrist licensed under ch. 449.
- (fm) A pharmacist licensed under ch. 450.
- (g) An acupuncturist certified under ch. 451.
- (h) A psychologist licensed under ch. 455.
- (hg) A social worker, marriage and family therapist, or professional counselor certified or licensed under ch. 457.
- (hm) A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under subch. II of ch. 459 or a speech and language pathologist licensed by the department of public instruction.

(hp) A massage therapist or bodyworker certified under ch. 460.  
**NOTE: Par.(hp) is shown as amended eff. 3-1-03 by 2001 Wis. Act 74. Prior to 3-1-03 it reads:**

(hp) A massage therapist or bodyworker issued a license of registration under subch. XI of ch. 440.

- (i) A partnership of any providers specified under pars.(a) to

- (j) A corporation or limited liability company of any providers specified under pars.(a) to (hp) that provides health care services.

- (k) An operational cooperative sickness care plan organized under ss. 185.981 to 185.985 that directly provides services through salaried employees in its own facility.

- (L) A hospice licensed under subch. IV of ch. 50.

- (m) An inpatient health care facility, as defined in s. 50.135 (1).

- (n) A community-based residential facility, as defined in s. 50.01 (1g).

- (p) A rural medical center, as defined in s. 50.50 (11).

(2) "Informed consent" means written consent to the disclosure of information from patient health care records to an individual, agency or organization that includes all of the following:

- (a) The name of the patient whose record is being disclosed.

- (b) The type of information to be disclosed.

- (c) The types of health care providers making the disclosure.

- (d) The purpose of the disclosure such as whether the disclosure is for further medical care, for an application for insurance, to obtain payment of an insurance claim, for a disability determination, for a vocational rehabilitation evaluation, for a legal investigation or for other specified purposes.

- (e) The individual, agency or organization to which disclosure may be made.

- (f) The signature of the patient or the person authorized by the patient and, if signed by a person authorized by the patient, the relationship of that person to the patient or the authority of the person.

- (g) The date on which the consent is signed.

- (h) The time period during which the consent is effective.

(3) "Patient" means a person who receives health care services from a health care provider.

(4) "Patient health care records" means all records related to the health of a patient prepared by or under the supervision of a health

care provider, including the records required under s. 146.82 (2) (d) and (3) (c), but not those records subject to s. 51.30, reports collected under s. 69.186, records of tests administered under s. 252.15 (2) (a) 7., 343.305, 938.296 (4) or (5) or 968.38 (4) or (5), fetal monitor tracings, as defined under s. 146.817 (1), or a pupil's physical health records maintained by a school under s. 118.125. "Patient health care records" also includes health summary forms prepared under s. 302.388 (2).

(5) "Person authorized by the patient" means the parent, guardian or legal custodian of a minor patient, as defined in s. 48.02 (8) and (11), the person vested with supervision of the child under s. 938.183 or 938.34 (4d), (4h), (4m) or (4n), the guardian of a patient adjudged incompetent, as defined in s. 880.01 (3) and (4), the personal representative or spouse of a deceased patient, any person authorized in writing by the patient or a health care agent designated by the patient as a principal under ch. 155 if the patient has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05 (2), except as limited by the power of attorney for health care instrument. If no spouse survives a deceased patient, "person authorized by the patient" also means an adult member of the deceased patient's immediate family, as defined in s. 632.895 (1) (d). A court may appoint a temporary guardian for a patient believed incompetent to consent to the release of records under this section as the person authorized by the patient to decide upon the release of records, if no guardian has been appointed for the patient.

**History:** 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 39 s. 22; 1983 a. 27; 1983 a. 189 s. 329 (1); 1983 a. 535; 1985 a. 315; 1987 a. 27, 70, 264; 1987 a. 399 ss. 403br, 491r; 1987 a. 403; 1989 a. 31, 168, 199, 200, 229, 316, 359; 1991 a. 39, 160, 269; 1993 a. 27, 32, 105, 112, 183, 385, 443, 496; 1995 a. 27 s. 9145 (1); 1995 a. 77, 98, 352; 1997 a. 27, 67, 75, 156, 175; 1999 a. 9, 32, 151, 180, 188; 2001 a. 38, 70, 74, 80, 89.

#### 146.815 Contents of certain patient health care records.

(1) Patient health care records maintained for hospital inpatients shall include, if obtainable, the inpatient's occupation and the industry in which the inpatient is employed at the time of admission, plus the inpatient's usual occupation.

(2) (a) If a hospital inpatient's health problems may be related to the inpatient's occupation or past occupations, the inpatient's physician shall ensure that the inpatient's health care record contains available information from the patient or family about these occupations and any potential health hazards related to these occupations.

(b) If a hospital inpatient's health problems may be related to the occupation or past occupations of the inpatient's parents, the inpatient's physician shall ensure that the inpatient's health care record contains available information from the patient or family about these occupations and any potential health hazards related to these occupations.

(3) The department shall provide forms that may be used to record information specified under sub.(2) and shall provide guidelines for determining whether to prepare the occupational history required under sub.(2). Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a hospital or physician to collect information required in this section from or about a patient who chooses not to divulge such information.

**History:** 1981 c. 214.

**146.817 Preservation of fetal monitor tracings and microfilm copies.** (1) In this section, "fetal monitor tracing" means documentation of the heart tones of a fetus during labor and delivery of the mother of the fetus that are recorded from an electronic fetal monitor machine.

(2) (a) Unless a health care provider has first made and preserved a microfilm copy of a patient's fetal monitor tracing, the health care provider may delete or destroy part or all of the patient's fetal monitor tracing only if 35 days prior to the deletion or destruction the health care provider provides written notice to the patient.

(b) If a health care provider has made and preserved a microfilm copy of a patient's fetal monitor tracing and if the health care provider has deleted or destroyed part or all of the patient's fetal monitor tracing, the health care provider may delete or destroy part or all of the microfilm copy of the patient's fetal monitor tracing only if 35 days prior to the deletion or destruction the health care provider provides written notice to the patient.

(c) The notice specified in pars.(a) and (b) shall be sent to the patient's last-known address and shall inform the patient of the imminent deletion or destruction of the fetal monitor tracing or of the microfilm copy of the fetal monitor tracing and of the patient's right, within 30 days after receipt of notice, to obtain the fetal monitor tracing or the microfilm copy of the fetal monitor tracing from the health care provider.

(d) The notice requirements under this subsection do not apply after 5 years after a fetal monitor tracing was first made.

History: 1987 a. 27, 399, 403.

**146.819 Preservation or destruction of patient health care records.** (1) Except as provided in sub.(4), any health care provider who ceases practice or business as a health care provider or the personal representative of a deceased health care provider who was an independent practitioner shall do one of the following for all patient health care records in the possession of the health care provider when the health care provider ceased business or practice or died:

(a) Provide for the maintenance of the patient health care records by a person who states, in writing, that the records will be maintained in compliance with ss. 146.81 to 146.835.

(b) Provide for the deletion or destruction of the patient health care records.

(c) Provide for the maintenance of some of the patient health care records, as specified in par.(a), and for the deletion or destruction of some of the records, as specified in par.(b).

(2) If the health care provider or personal representative provides for the maintenance of any of the patient health care records under sub.(1), the health care provider or personal representative shall also do at least one of the following:

(a) Provide written notice, by 1st class mail, to each patient or person authorized by the patient whose records will be maintained, at the last-known address of the patient or person, describing where and by whom the records shall be maintained.

(b) Publish, under ch. 985, a class 3 notice in a newspaper that is published in the county in which the health care provider's or decedent's health care practice was located, specifying where and by whom the patient health care records shall be maintained.

(3) If the health care provider or personal representative provides for the deletion or destruction of any of the patient health care records under sub.(1), the health care provider or personal representative shall also do at least one of the following:

(a) Provide notice to each patient or person authorized by the patient whose records will be deleted or destroyed, that the records pertaining to the patient will be deleted or destroyed. The notice shall be provided at least 35 days prior to deleting or destroying the records, shall be in writing and shall be sent, by 1st class mail, to the last-known address of the patient to whom the records pertain or the last-known address of the person authorized by the patient. The notice shall inform the patient or person authorized by the patient of the date on which the records will be deleted or destroyed, unless the patient or person retrieves them before that date, and the location where, and the dates and times when, the records may be retrieved by the patient or person.

(b) Publish, under ch. 985, a class 3 notice in a newspaper that is published in the county in which the health care provider's or decedent's health care practice was located, specifying the date on which the records will be deleted or destroyed, unless the patient or person authorized by the patient retrieves them before that date, and the location where, and the dates and times when, the records may be retrieved by the patient or person.

(4) This section does not apply to a health care provider that is any of the following:

(a) A community-based residential facility or nursing home licensed under s. 50.03.

(b) A hospital approved under s. 50.35.

(c) A hospice licensed under s. 50.92.

(d) A home health agency licensed under s. 50.49 (4).

(f) A local health department, as defined in s. 250.01 (4), that ceases practice or business and transfers the patient health care records in its possession to a successor local health department.

History: 1991 a. 269; 1993 a. 27; 1999 a. 9.

Cross Reference: See also ch. Med 21, Wis. adm. code.

#### **146.82 Confidentiality of patient health care records.**

(1) **CONFIDENTIALITY.** All patient health care records shall remain confidential. Patient health care records may be released only to the persons designated in this section or to other persons with the informed consent of the patient or of a person authorized by the patient. This subsection does not prohibit reports made in compliance with s. 146.995, 253.12 (2) or 979.01 or testimony authorized under s. 905.04 (4) (h).

(2) **ACCESS WITHOUT INFORMED CONSENT.** (a) Notwithstanding sub.(1), patient health care records shall be released upon request without informed consent in the following circumstances:

1. To health care facility staff committees, or accreditation or health care services review organizations for the purposes of conducting management audits, financial audits, program monitoring and evaluation, health care services reviews or accreditation.

2. To the extent that performance of their duties requires access to the records, to a health care provider or any person acting under the supervision of a health care provider or to a person licensed under s. 146.50, including medical staff members, employees or persons serving in training programs or participating in volunteer programs and affiliated with the health care provider, if any of the following is applicable:

a. The person is rendering assistance to the patient.

b. The person is being consulted regarding the health of the patient.

c. The life or health of the patient appears to be in danger and the information contained in the patient health care records may aid the person in rendering assistance.

d. The person prepares or stores records, for the purposes of the preparation or storage of those records.

3. To the extent that the records are needed for billing, collection or payment of claims.

4. Under a lawful order of a court of record.

5. In response to a written request by any federal or state governmental agency to perform a legally authorized function, including but not limited to management audits, financial audits, program monitoring and evaluation, facility licensure or certification or individual licensure or certification. The private pay patient, except if a resident of a nursing home, may deny access granted under this subdivision by annually submitting to a health care provider, other than a nursing home, a signed, written request on a form provided by the department. The provider, if a hospital, shall submit a copy of the signed form to the patient's physician.

6. For purposes of research if the researcher is affiliated with the health care provider and provides written assurances to the custodian of the patient health care records that the information will be used only for the purposes for which it is provided to the researcher, the information will not be released to a person not connected with the study, and the final product of the research will not reveal information that may serve to identify the patient whose records are being released under this paragraph without the informed consent of the patient. The private pay patient may deny access granted under this subdivision by annually submitting to the health care provider a signed, written request on a form provided by the department.

7. To a county agency designated under s. 46.90 (2) or other investigating agency under s. 46.90 for purposes of s. 46.90 (4) (a) and (5) or to the county protective services agency designated under s. 55.02 for purposes of s. 55.043. The health care provider may release information by initiating contact with the county agency or county protective services agency without receiving a request for release of the information from the county agency or county protective services agency.

8. To the department under s. 255.04. The release of a patient health care record under this subdivision shall be limited to the information prescribed by the department under s. 255.04 (2).

9. a. In this subdivision, “abuse” has the meaning given in s. 51.62 (1) (ag); “neglect” has the meaning given in s. 51.62 (1) (br); and “parent” has the meaning given in s. 48.02 (13), except that “parent” does not include the parent of a minor whose custody is transferred to a legal custodian, as defined in s. 48.02 (11), or for whom a guardian is appointed under s. 880.33.

b. Except as provided in subd. 9. c. and d., to staff members of the protection and advocacy agency designated under s. 51.62 (2) or to staff members of the private, nonprofit corporation with which the agency has contracted under s. 51.62 (3) (a) 3., if any, for the purpose of protecting and advocating the rights of a person with developmental disabilities, as defined under s. 51.62 (1) (am), who resides in or who is receiving services from an inpatient health care facility, as defined under s. 51.62 (1) (b), or a person with mental illness, as defined under s. 51.62 (1) (bm).

c. If the patient, regardless of age, has a guardian appointed under s. 880.33, or if the patient is a minor with developmental disability, as defined in s. 51.01 (5) (a), who has a parent or has a guardian appointed under s. 48.831 and does not have a guardian appointed under s. 880.33, information concerning the patient that is obtainable by staff members of the agency or nonprofit corporation with which the agency has contracted is limited, except as provided in subd. 9. e., to the nature of an alleged rights violation, if any; the name, birth date and county of residence of the patient; information regarding whether the patient was voluntarily admitted, involuntarily committed or protectively placed and the date and place of admission, placement or commitment; and the name, address and telephone number of the guardian of the patient and the date and place of the guardian’s appointment or, if the patient is a minor with developmental disability who has a parent or has a guardian appointed under s. 48.831 and does not have a guardian appointed under s. 880.33, the name, address and telephone number of the parent or guardian appointed under s. 48.831 of the patient.

d. Except as provided in subd. 9. e., any staff member who wishes to obtain additional information about a patient described in subd. 9. c. shall notify the patient’s guardian or, if applicable, parent in writing of the request and of the guardian’s or parent’s right to object. The staff member shall send the notice by mail to the guardian’s or, if applicable, parent’s address. If the guardian or parent does not object in writing within 15 days after the notice is mailed, the staff member may obtain the additional information. If the guardian or parent objects in writing within 15 days after the notice is mailed, the staff member may not obtain the additional information.

e. The restrictions on information that is obtainable by staff members of the protection and advocacy agency or private, nonprofit corporation that are specified in subd. 9. c. and d. do not apply if the custodian of the record fails to promptly provide the name and address of the parent or guardian; if a complaint is received by the agency or nonprofit corporation about a patient, or if the agency or nonprofit corporation determines that there is probable cause to believe that the health or safety of the patient is in serious and immediate jeopardy, the agency or nonprofit corporation has made a good-faith effort to contact the parent or guardian upon receiving the name and address of the parent or guardian, the agency or nonprofit corporation has either been unable to contact the parent or guardian or has offered assistance to the parent or guardian to resolve the situation and the parent or guardian has failed or refused to act on behalf of the patient; if a complaint is received by the agency or nonprofit corporation about a patient or there is otherwise probable cause to believe that the patient has been subject to abuse or neglect by a parent or guardian; or if the patient is a minor whose custody has been transferred to a legal custodian, as defined in s. 48.02 (11) or for whom a guardian that is an agency of the state or a county has been appointed.

10. To persons as provided under s. 655.17 (7) (b), as created by 1985 Wisconsin Act 29, if the patient files a submission of controversy under s. 655.04 (1), 1983 stats., on or after July 20, 1985 and before June 14, 1986, for the purposes of s. 655.17 (7) (b), as created by 1985 Wisconsin Act 29.

11. To a county department, as defined under s. 48.02 (2g), a sheriff or police department or a district attorney for purposes of

investigation of threatened or suspected child abuse or neglect or suspected unborn child abuse or for purposes of prosecution of alleged child abuse or neglect, if the person conducting the investigation or prosecution identifies the subject of the record by name. The health care provider may release information by initiating contact with a county department, sheriff or police department or district attorney without receiving a request for release of the information. A person to whom a report or record is disclosed under this subdivision may not further disclose it, except to the persons, for the purposes and under the conditions specified in s. 48.981 (7).

12. To a school district employee or agent, with regard to patient health care records maintained by the school district by which he or she is employed or is an agent, if any of the following apply: a. The employee or agent has responsibility for preparation or storage of patient health care records. b. Access to the patient health care records is necessary to comply with a requirement in federal or state law.

13. To persons and entities under s. 940.22.

14. To a representative of the board on aging and long-term care, in accordance with s. 49.498 (5) (e).

15. To the department under s. 48.60 (5) (c), 50.02 (5) or 51.03 (2) or to a sheriff, police department or district attorney for purposes of investigation of a death reported under s. 48.60 (5) (a), 50.035 (5) (b), 50.04 (2t) (b) or 51.64 (2).

16. To a designated representative of the long-term care ombudsman under s. 16.009 (4), for the purpose of protecting and advocating the rights of an individual 60 years of age or older who resides in a long-term care facility, as specified in s. 16.009 (4) (b).

17. To the department under s. 50.53 (2).

18. Following the death of a patient, to a coroner, deputy coroner, medical examiner or medical examiner’s assistant, for the purpose of completing a medical certificate under s. 69.18 (2) or investigating a death under s. 979.01 or 979.10. The health care provider may release information by initiating contact with the office of the coroner or medical examiner without receiving a request for release of the information and shall release information upon receipt of an oral or written request for the information from the coroner, deputy coroner, medical examiner or medical examiner’s assistant. The recipient of any information under this subdivision shall keep the information confidential except as necessary to comply with s. 69.18, 979.01 or 979.10.

18m. If the subject of the patient health care records is a child or juvenile who has been placed in a foster home, treatment foster home, group home, residential care center for children and youth, or a secured correctional facility, including a placement under s. 48.205, 48.21, 938.205, or 938.21 or for whom placement in a foster home, treatment foster home, group home, residential care center for children and youth, or secured correctional facility is recommended under s. 48.33 (4), 48.425 (1) (g), 48.837 (4) (c), or 938.33 (3) or (4), to an agency directed by a court to prepare a court report under s. 48.33 (1), 48.424 (4) (b), 48.425 (3), 48.831 (2), 48.837 (4) (c), or 938.33 (1), to an agency responsible for preparing a court report under s. 48.365 (2g), 48.425 (1), 48.831 (2), 48.837 (4) (c), or 938.365 (2g), to an agency responsible for preparing a permanency plan under s. 48.355 (2e), 48.38, 48.43 (1) (c) or (5) (c), 48.63 (4) or (5) (c), 48.831 (4) (e), 938.355 (2e), or 938.38 regarding the child or juvenile, or to an agency that placed the child or juvenile or arranged for the placement of the child or juvenile in any of those placements and, by any of those agencies, to any other of those agencies and, by the agency that placed the child or juvenile or arranged for the placement of the child or juvenile in any of those placements, to the foster parent or treatment foster parent of the child or juvenile or the operator of the group home, residential care center for children and youth, or secured correctional facility in which the child or juvenile is placed, as provided in s. 48.371 or 938.371.

19. To an organ procurement organization by a hospital pursuant to s. 157.06 (5) (b) 1.

20. If the patient health care records do not contain information and the circumstances of the release do not provide information that would permit the identification of the patient.

21. To a prisoner’s health care provider, the medical staff of a prison or jail in which a prisoner is confined, the receiving institution intake staff at a prison or jail to which a prisoner is being transferred or a person designated by a jailer to maintain



prisoner medical records, if the disclosure is made with respect to a prisoner's patient health care records under s. 302.388 or to the department of corrections if the disclosure is made with respect to a prisoner's patient health care records under s. 302.388 (4).

(b) Except as provided in s. 610.70 (3) and (5), unless authorized by a court of record, the recipient of any information under par.(a) shall keep the information confidential and may not disclose identifying information about the patient whose patient health care records are released.

(c) Notwithstanding sub.(1), patient health care records shall be released to appropriate examiners and facilities in accordance with ss. 971.17 (2) (e), (4) (c) and (7) (c), 980.03 (4) and 980.08 (3). The recipient of any information from the records shall keep the information confidential except as necessary to comply with s. 971.17 or ch. 980.

(d) For each release of patient health care records under this subsection, the health care provider shall record the name of the person or agency to which the records were released, the date and time of the release and the identification of the records released.

**(3) REPORTS MADE WITHOUT INFORMED CONSENT.** (a) Notwithstanding sub.(1), a physician who treats a patient whose physical or mental condition in the physician's judgment affects the patient's ability to exercise reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle may report the patient's name and other information relevant to the condition to the department of transportation without the informed consent of the patient.

(b) Notwithstanding sub.(1), an optometrist who examines a patient whose vision in the optometrist's judgment affects the patient's ability to exercise reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle may report the patient's name and other information relevant to the condition to the department of transportation without the informed consent of the patient.

(c) For each release of patient health care records under this subsection, the health care provider shall record the name of the person or agency to which the records were released, the date and time of the release and the identification of the records released.

**History:** 1979 c. 221; 1983 a. 398; 1985 a. 29,241, 332, 340; 1987 a. 40, 70, 127, 215, 233, 380, 399; 1989 a. 31, 102,334,336 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 1627,445,479; 1995 a. 98, 169, 417; 1997 a. 35, 114, 231, 272, 292, 305; 1999 a. 32, 78, 83, 114, 151; 2001 a. 38, 59, 69, 105.

Because under s. 905.04 (4) (f) there is no privilege for chemical tests for intoxication, results of a test taken for diagnostic purposes are admissible in an OMVWI trial without patient approval. *City of Muskego v. Godec*, 167 Wis. 2d 536, 482 N.W.2d 79 (1992).

Patient billing records requested by the state in a fraud investigation under s. 46.25 [now s. 49.22] may be admitted into evidence under the exception to confidentiality found under sub. (2) (a) 3. *State v. Allen*, 200 Wis. 2d 301, 546 N.W.2d 517 (1996).

This section does not restrict access to medical procedures and did not prevent a police officer from being present during an operation. *State v. Thompson*, 222 Wis. 2d 179, 585 N.W.2d 905 (Ct. App. 1998).

The provision of confidentiality for patient health records is not an absolute bar to the release of information without the patient's informed consent. Sub. (2) provides numerous exceptions. Information of previous assaultive behavior by a nursing home resident was not protected by the physician-patient privilege and was subject to release by "lawful court order." *Crawford v. Care Concepts, Inc.* 2001 WI App 45, 243 Wis. 2d 119, 625 N.W.2d 876. Disclosure of patient health care records in *Wisconsin. Lebner*, WBB Aug. 1984.

Confidentiality of Medical Records. Meili. Wis. Law. Feb. 1995.

**146.83 Access to patient health care records.** (1) Except as provided in s. 51.30 or 146.82 (2), any patient or other person may, upon submitting a statement of informed consent:

(a) Inspect the health care records of a health care provider pertaining to that patient at any time during regular business hours, upon reasonable notice.

(b) Receive a copy of the patient's health care records upon payment of fees, as established by rule under sub.(3m).

(c) Receive a copy of the health care provider's X-ray reports or have the X-rays referred to another health care provider of the patient's choice upon payment of fees, as established by rule under sub.(3m).

**(1m)** (a) A patient's health care records shall be provided to the patient's health care provider upon request and, except as provided in s. 146.82 (2), with a statement of informed consent.

(b) The health care provider under par.(a) may be charged reasonable costs for the provision of the patient's health care records.

**(2)** The health care provider shall provide each patient with a statement paraphrasing the provisions of this section either upon admission to an inpatient health care facility, as defined in s. 50.135 (1), or upon the first provision of services by the health care provider.

**(3)** The health care provider shall note the time and date of each request by a patient or person authorized by the patient to inspect the patient's health care records, the name of the inspecting person, the time and date of inspection and identify the records released for inspection.

**(3m)** (a) The department shall, by rule, prescribe fees that are based on an approximation of actual costs. The fees, plus applicable tax, are the maximum amount that a health care provider may charge under sub.(1) (b) for duplicate patient health care records and under sub.(1) (c) for duplicate X-ray reports or the referral of X-rays to another health care provider of the patient's choice. The rule shall also permit the health care provider to charge for actual postage or other actual delivery costs. In determining the approximation of actual costs for the purposes of this subsection, the department may consider all of the following factors: 1. Operating expenses, such as wages, rent, utilities, and duplication equipment and supplies. 2. The varying cost of retrieval of records, based on the different media on which the records are maintained. 3. The cost of separating requested patient health care records from those that are not requested. 4. The cost of duplicating requested patient health care records. 5. The impact on costs of advances in technology.

(b) By January 1, 2006, and every 3 years thereafter, the department shall revise the rules under par.(a) to account for increases or decreases in actual costs.

**(4)** No person may do any of the following:

(a) Intentionally falsify a patient health care record.

(b) Conceal or withhold a patient health care record with intent to prevent or obstruct an investigation or prosecution or with intent to prevent its release to the patient, to his or her guardian appointed under ch. 880, to his or her health care provider with a statement of informed consent, or under the conditions specified in s. 146.82 (2), or to a person with a statement of informed consent.

(c) Intentionally destroy or damage records in order to prevent or obstruct an investigation or prosecution.

**History:** 1979 c. 221; 1989 a. 56; 1993 a. 27,445; 1997 a. 157; 2001 a. 109.

Sub. (1) (b) does not preclude certification of a class action in a suit to recover unreasonable fees charged for copies of health care records. *Cruz v. All Saints Healthcare System, Inc.* 2001 WI App 67,242 Wis. 2d 432,625 N.W.2d 344.

**146.835 Parents denied physical placement rights.** A parent who has been denied periods of physical placement under s. 767.24 (4) (b) or 767.325 (4) may not have the rights of a parent or guardian under this chapter with respect to access to that child's patient health care records under s. 146.82 or 146.83.

**History:** 1987 a. 355.

**146.836 Applicability.** Sections 146.815, 146.82, 146.83 (4) and 146.835 apply to all patient health care records, including those on which written, drawn, printed, spoken, visual, electromagnetic or digital information is recorded or preserved, regardless of physical form or characteristics.

**History:** 1999 a. 78.

**146.84 Violations related to patient health care records.**

**(1) ACTIONS FOR VIOLATIONS; DAMAGES; INJUNCTION.** (a) A custodian of records incurs no liability under par.(bm) for the release of records in accordance with s. 146.82 or 146.83 while acting in good faith.

(b) Any person, including the state or any political subdivision of the state, who violates s. 146.82 or 146.83 in a manner that is knowing and willful shall be liable to any person injured as a result of the violation for actual damages to that person, exemplary damages of not more than \$25,000 and costs and reasonable actual attorney fees.

(bm) Any person, including the state or any political subdivision of the state, who negligently violates s. 146.82 or 146.83 shall be liable to any person injured as a result of the violation for actual damages to that person, exemplary damages of not more than \$1,000 and costs and reasonable actual attorney fees.

(c) An individual may bring an action to enjoin any violation of s. 146.82 or 146.83 or to compel compliance with s. 146.82 or 146.83 and may, in the same action, seek damages as provided in this subsection.

**(2) PENALTIES.** (a) Whoever does any of the following may be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both:



1. Requests or obtains confidential information under s. 146.82 or 146.83 (1) under false pretenses.

2. Discloses confidential information with knowledge that the disclosure is unlawful and is not reasonably necessary to protect another from harm.

3. Violates s. 146.83 (4).

(b) Whoever negligently discloses confidential information in violation of s. 146.82 is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$1,000 for each violation.

(c) Whoever intentionally discloses confidential information in violation of s. 146.82, knowing that the information is confidential, and discloses the information for pecuniary gain may be fined not more than \$100,000 or imprisoned not more than 3 years and 6 months, or both.

**(3) DISCIPLINE OF EMPLOYEES.** Any person employed by the state or any political subdivision of the state who violates s. 146.82 or 146.83, except a health care provider that negligently violates s. 153.50 (6) (c), may be discharged or suspended without pay.

**(4) EXCEPTIONS.** This section does not apply to any of the following:

(a) Violations by a nursing facility, as defined under s. 49.498 (1) (i), of the right of a resident of the nursing facility to confidentiality of his or her patient health care records.

(b) Violations by a nursing home, as defined under s. 50.01 (3), of the right of a resident of the nursing home to confidentiality of his or her patient health care records.

**History:** 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 445; 1999 a. 9, 79.

Sub.(1) (b) does not preclude certification of a class action in a suit to recover unreasonable fees charged for copies of health care records. *Cruz v. All Saints Healthcare System, Inc.* 2001 WI App 67, 242 Wis. 2d 432, 625 N.W.2d 344.

**146.885 Acceptance of assignment for medicare.** The department shall annually provide aging units, as defined in s. 46.82 (1) (a), with enrollment cards for and materials explaining the voluntary program that is specified in s. 71.55 (10) (b), for distribution to individuals who are eligible or potentially eligible for participation in the program. The state medical society shall supply the department with the enrollment cards and the explanatory materials for distribution under this section.

**History:** 1989 a. 294, 359; Stats. 1989 s. 146.885; 1991 a. 235.

**146.89 Volunteer health care provider program.** (1) In this section, "volunteer health care provider" means an individual who is licensed as a physician under ch. 448, dentist under ch. 447, registered nurse, practical nurse or nurse-midwife under ch. 441, optometrist under ch. 449 or physician assistant under ch. 448 or certified as a dietitian under subch. V of ch. 448 and who receives no income from the practice of that health care profession or who receives no income from the practice of that health care profession when providing services at the nonprofit agency specified under sub.(3).

(2) (a) A volunteer health care provider may participate under this section only if he or she submits a joint application with a nonprofit agency to the department of administration and that department approves the application. The department of administration shall provide application forms for use under this paragraph.

(b) The department of administration may send an application to the medical examining board for evaluation. The medical examining board shall evaluate any application submitted by the department of administration and return the application to the department of administration with the board's recommendation regarding approval.

(c) The department of administration shall notify the volunteer health care provider and the nonprofit agency of the department's decision to approve or disapprove the application.

(d) Approval of an application of a volunteer health care provider is valid for one year. If a volunteer health care provider wishes to renew approval, he or she shall submit a joint renewal application with a nonprofit agency to the department of administration. The department of administration shall provide renewal application forms that are developed by the department of health and family services and that include questions about the activities that the individual has undertaken as a volunteer health care provider in the previous 12 months.

(3) Any volunteer health care provider and nonprofit agency whose joint application is approved under sub.(2) shall meet the following applicable conditions:

(a) The volunteer health care provider shall provide services under par.(b) without charge at the nonprofit agency, if the joint application of the volunteer health care provider and the nonprofit agency has received approval under sub.(2) (a).

(b) The nonprofit agency may provide the following health care services:

1. Diagnostic tests.
2. Health education.
3. Information about available health care resources.
4. Office visits.
5. Patient advocacy.
6. Prescriptions.
7. Referrals to health care specialists.

8. Dental services, including simple tooth extractions and any necessary suturing related to the extractions, performed by a dentist who is a volunteer health provider.

(c) The nonprofit agency may not provide emergency medical services, hospitalization or surgery, except as provided in par.(b) 8.

(d) The nonprofit agency shall provide health care services primarily to low-income persons who are uninsured and who are not recipients of any of the following:

2. Medical assistance under subch. IV of ch. 49.
3. Medicare under 42 USC 1395-1395ccc.

**(4) Volunteer health care providers who provide services under this section are, for the provision of these services, state agents of the department of health and family services for purposes of ss. 165.25 (6), 893.82 (3) and 895.46.**

**History:** 1989 a. 206; 1991 a. 269; 1993 a. 28, 490; 1995 a. 27 ss. 4378 to 4380, 9126 (19); 1997 a. 27, 57, 67; 1999 a. 23.

**146.905 Reduction in fees prohibited.** (1) Except as provided in sub.(2), a health care provider, as defined in s. 146.81 (1), that provides a service or a product to an individual with coverage under a disability insurance policy, as defined in s. 632.895 (1) (a), may not reduce or eliminate or offer to reduce or eliminate coinsurance or a deductible required under the terms of the disability insurance policy.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if payment of the total fee would impose an undue financial hardship on the individual receiving the service or product.

**History:** 1991 a. 250; 1995 a. 225.

**146.91 Long-term care insurance.** (1) In this section, "long-term care insurance" means insurance that provides coverage both for an extended stay in a nursing home and home health services for a person with a chronic condition. The insurance may also provide coverage for other services that assist the insured person in living outside a nursing home including but not limited to adult day care and continuing care retirement communities.

(2) The department, with the advice of the council on long-term care insurance, the office of the commissioner of insurance, the board on aging and long-term care and the department of employee trust funds, shall design a program that includes the following:

(a) Subsidizing premiums for persons purchasing long-term care insurance, based on the purchasers' ability to pay.

(b) Reinsuring by the state of policies issued in this state by long-term care insurers.

(c) Allowing persons to retain liquid assets in excess of the amounts specified in s. 49.47 (4) (b) 3g., 3m. and 3r., for purposes of medical assistance eligibility, if the persons purchase long-term care insurance.

(3) The department shall collect any data on health care costs and utilization that the department determines to be necessary to design the program under sub.(2).

(5) In designing the program, the department shall consult with the federal department of health and human services to determine the feasibility of procuring a waiver of federal law or regulations that will maximize use of federal medicaid funding for the program designed under sub.(2).

(6) The department, with the advice of the council on long-term care insurance, may examine use of tax incentives for the sale and purchase of long-term care insurance.

History: 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 56.

**146.93 Primary health care program.** (1) (a) From the appropriation under s. 20.435 (4) (gp), the department shall maintain a program for the provision of primary health care services based on the primary health care program in existence on June 30, 1987. The department may promulgate rules necessary to implement the program.

(c) The department shall seek to obtain a maximum of donated or reduced-rate health care services for the program and shall seek to identify and obtain a maximum of federal funds for the program.

(2) The program under sub.(1) (a) shall provide primary health care, including diagnostic laboratory and X-ray services, prescription drugs and nonprescription insulin and insulin syringes.

(3) The program under sub.(1) (a) shall be implemented in those counties with high unemployment rates and within which a maximum of donated or reduced-rate health care services can be obtained.

(4) The health care services of the program under sub.(1) (a) shall be provided to any individual residing in a county under sub.(3) who meets all of the following criteria:

(a) The individual is either unemployed or is employed less than 25 hours per week.

(b) The individual's family income is not greater than 150% of the federal poverty line, as defined under 42 USC 9902 (2).

(c) The individual does not have health insurance or other health care coverage and is unable to obtain health insurance or other health care coverage.

History: 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 31; 1999 a. 9.

**146.95 Patient visitation.** (1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Health care provider" has the meaning given in s. 155.01 (7).

(b) "Inpatient health care facility" has the meaning given in s. 252.14 (1) (d).

(c) "Treatment facility" has the meaning given in s. 5 1.01 (19).

(2) **PATIENT-DESIGNATED VISITORS.** (a) Any individual who is 18 years of age or older may identify to a health care provider at an inpatient health care facility at any time, either orally or in writing, those persons with whom the individual wishes to visit while the individual is a patient at the inpatient health care facility. Except as provided in par. @, no inpatient health care facility may deny visitation during the inpatient health care facility's regular visiting hours to any person identified by the individual.

(b) Subject to s. 51.61 for a treatment facility, an inpatient health care facility may deny visitation with a patient to any person if any of the following applies:

1. The inpatient health care facility or a health care provider determines that the patient may not receive any visitors.

2. The inpatient health care facility or a health care provider determines that the presence of the person would endanger the health or safety of the patient.

3. The inpatient health care facility determines that the presence of the person would interfere with the primary operations of the inpatient health care facility.

4. The patient has subsequently expressed in writing to a health care provider at the inpatient health care facility that the patient no longer wishes to visit with the person. Unless subd. 2. applies, an inpatient health care facility may not under this subdivision deny visitation to the person based on a claim by someone other than a health care provider that the patient has orally expressed that the patient no longer wishes to visit with that person.

History: 1997 a. 153.

**146.96 Uniform claim processing form.** Beginning no later than July 1, 2004, every health care provider, as defined in s. 146.81 (1), shall use the uniform claim processing form developed by the commissioner of insurance under s. 601.41 (9) (b) when submitting a claim to an insurer.

History: 2001 a. 109.

**146.99 Assessments.** The department shall, within 90 days after the commencement of each fiscal year, assess hospitals, as defined in s. 50.33 (2), a total of \$1,500,000, in proportion to each hospital's respective gross private-pay patient revenues during the

hospital's most recently concluded entire fiscal year. Each hospital shall pay its assessment on or before December 1 for the fiscal year. All payments of assessments shall be deposited in the appropriation under s. 20.435 (4) (gp).

History: 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 269; 1999 a. 9.

**146.995 Reporting of wounds and burn injuries.** (1) In this section:

(a) "Crime" has the meaning specified in s. 949.01 (1).

(b) "Inpatient health care facility" has the meaning specified in s. 50.135 (1).

(2) (a) Any person licensed, certified or registered by the state under ch. 441, 448 or 455 who treats a patient suffering from any of the following shall report in accordance with par.(b): 1. A gunshot wound. 2. Any wound other than a gunshot wound if the person has reasonable cause to believe that the wound occurred as a result of a crime. 3. Second-degree or 3rd-degree burns to at least 5% of the patient's body or, due to the inhalation of superheated air, swelling of the patient's larynx or a burn to the patient's upper respiratory tract, if the person has reasonable cause to believe that the burn occurred as a result of a crime.

(b) For any mandatory report under par.(a), the person shall report the patient's name and the type of wound or burn injury involved as soon as reasonably possible to the local police department or county sheriff's office for the area where the treatment is rendered.

(c) Any such person who intentionally fails to report as required under this subsection may be required to forfeit not more than \$500.

(3) Any person reporting in good faith under sub.(2), and any inpatient health care facility that employs the person who reports, are immune from all civil and criminal liability that may result because of the report. In any proceeding, the good faith of any person reporting under this section shall be presumed.

(4) The reporting requirement under sub.(2) does not apply under any of the following circumstances:

(a) The patient is accompanied by a law enforcement officer at the time treatment is rendered.

(b) The patient's name and type of wound or burn injury have been previously reported under sub.(2).

(c) The wound is a gunshot wound and appears to have occurred at least 30 days prior to the time of treatment.

History: 1987 a. 233; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 27.

**146.997 Health care worker protection.** (1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Department" means the department of workforce development.

(b) "Disciplinary action" has the meaning given in s. 230.80 (2).

(c) "Health care facility" means a facility, as defined in s. 647.01 (4), or any hospital, nursing home, community-based residential facility, county home, county infirmary, county hospital, county mental health complex or other place licensed or approved by the department of health and family services under s. 49.70, 49.71, 49.72, 50.03, 50.35, 51.08 or 51.09 or a facility under s. 45.365, 51.05, 51.06, 233.40, 233.41, 233.42 or 252.10.

(d) "Health care provider" means any of the following:

1. A nurse licensed under ch. 441.

2. A chiropractor licensed under ch. 446.

3. A dentist licensed under ch. 447. 4. A physician, podiatrist, perfusionist, or physical therapist licensed under ch. 448.

**NOTE:** Subd. 4 is shown below as affected by 2001 Wis. Acts 70 and 89, eff. 4-1-04. 4. A physician, podiatrist, perfusionist, physical therapist, or physical therapist assistant licensed under ch. 448.

5. An occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistant, physician assistant or respiratory care practitioner certified under ch. 448.

6. A dietitian certified under subch. V of ch. 448.

7. An optometrist licensed under ch. 449.

8. A pharmacist licensed under ch. 450.

9. An acupuncturist certified under ch. 451.

10. A psychologist licensed under ch. 455.

11. A social worker, marriage and family therapist or professional counselor certified under ch. 457.

12. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under subch. II of ch. 459 or a speech and language pathologist licensed by the department of public instruction.

13. A massage therapist or bodyworker issued a certificate under ch. 460.

**NOTE:** Subd. 13. is shown as amended eff. 3-1-03 by 2001 Wis. Act 74. Prior to 3-1-03 it reads: 13. A massage therapist or bodyworker issued a license of registration under subch. XI of ch. 440.

14. An emergency medical technician licensed under s. 146.50 (5) or a first responder.

15. A partnership of any providers specified under subds. 1. to 14.

16. A corporation or limited liability company of any providers specified under subds. 1. to 14. that provides health care services.

17. An operational cooperative sickness care plan organized under ss. 185.981 to 185.985 that directly provides services through salaried employees in its own facility.

18. A hospice licensed under subch. IV of ch. 50 19. A rural medical center, as defined in s. 50.50 (11). 20. A home health agency, as defined in s. 50.49 (1) (a).

**(2) REPORTING PROTECTED.** (a) Any employee of a health care facility or of a health care provider who is aware of any information, the disclosure of which is not expressly prohibited by any state law or rule or any federal law or regulation, that would lead a reasonable person to believe any of the following may report that information to any agency, as defined in s. 111.32 (6) (a), of the state; to any professionally recognized accrediting or standard-setting body that has accredited, certified or otherwise approved the health care facility or health care provider; to any officer or director of the health care facility or health care provider; or to any employee of the health care facility or health care provider who is in a supervisory capacity or in a position to take corrective action:

1. That the health care facility or health care provider or any employee of the health care facility or health care provider has violated any state law or rule or federal law or regulation.

2. That there exists any situation in which the quality of any health care service provided by the health care facility or health care provider or by any employee of the health care facility or health care provider violates any standard established by any state law or rule or federal law or regulation or any clinical or ethical standard established by a professionally recognized accrediting or standard-setting body and poses a potential risk to public health or safety.

(b) An agency or accrediting or standard-setting body that receives a report under par.(a) shall, within 5 days after receiving the report, notify the health care facility or health provider that is the subject of the report, in writing, that a report alleging a violation specified in par.(a) 1. or 2. has been received and provide the health care facility or health care provider with a written summary of the contents of the report, unless the agency, or accrediting or standard-setting body determines that providing that notification and summary would jeopardize an ongoing investigation of a violation alleged in the report. The notification and summary may not disclose the identity of the person who made the report.

(c) Any employee of a health care facility or health care provider may initiate, participate in or testify in any action or proceeding in which a violation specified in par.(a) 1. or 2. is alleged.

(d) Any employee of a health care facility or health care provider may provide any information relating to an alleged violation specified in par.(a) 1. or 2. to any legislator or legislative committee.

**(3) DISCIPLINARY ACTION PROHIBITED.** (a) No health care facility or health care provider and no employee of a health care facility or health care provider may take disciplinary action against, or threaten to take disciplinary action against, any person because the person reported in good faith any information under

sub.(2) (a), in good faith initiated, participated in or testified in any action or proceeding under sub.(2) (c) or provided in good faith any information under sub.(2) (d) or because the health care facility, health care provider or employee believes that the person reported in good faith any information under sub.(2) (a), in good faith initiated, participated in or testified in any action or proceeding under sub.(2) (c) or provided in good faith any information under sub.(2) (d).

(b) No health care facility or health care provider and no employee of a health care facility or health care provider may take disciplinary action against, or threaten to take disciplinary action against, any person on whose behalf another person reported in good faith any information under sub.(2) (a), in good faith initiated, participated in or testified in any action or proceeding under sub.(2) (c) or provided in good faith any information under sub.(2) (d) or because the health care facility, health care provider or employee believes that another person reported in good faith any information under sub.(2) (a), in good faith initiated, participated in or testified in any action or proceeding under sub.(2) (c) or provided in good faith any information under sub.(2) (d) on that person's behalf.

(c) For purposes of pars.(a) and (b), an employee is not acting in good faith if the employee reports any information under sub.(2) (a) that the employee knows or should know is false or misleading, initiates, participates in or testifies in any action or proceeding under sub.(2) (c) based on information that the employee knows or should know is false or misleading or provides any information under sub.(2) (d) that the employee knows or should know is false or misleading.

**(4) ENFORCEMENT.** (a) Subject to par.(b), any employee of a health care facility or health care provider who is subjected to disciplinary action, or who is threatened with disciplinary action, in violation of sub.(3) may file a complaint with the department under s. 106.54 (6). If the department finds that a violation of sub.(3) has been committed, the department may take such action under s. 111.39 as will effectuate the purpose of this section.

(b) Any employee of a health care facility operated by an agency, as defined in s. 111.32 (6) (a), of the state who is subjected to disciplinary action, or who is threatened with disciplinary action, in violation of sub.(3) may file a complaint with the personnel commission under s. 230.45 (1) (L). If the personnel commission finds that a violation of sub.(3) has been committed, the personnel commission may take such action under s. 111.39 as will effectuate the purpose of this section.

(c) Section 111.322 (2m) applies to a disciplinary action arising in connection with any proceeding under par.(a) or (b).

**(5) CIVIL PENALTY.** Any health care facility or health care provider and any employee of a health care facility or health care provider who takes disciplinary action against, or who threatens to take disciplinary action against, any person in violation of sub.(3) may be required to forfeit not more than \$1,000 for a first violation, not more than \$5,000 for a violation committed within 12 months of a previous violation and not more than \$10,000 for a violation committed within 12 months of 2 or more previous violations. The 12-month period shall be measured by using the dates of the violations that resulted in convictions.

**(6) POSTING OF NOTICE.** Each health care facility and health care provider shall post, in one or more conspicuous places where notices to employees are customarily posted, a notice in a form approved by the department setting forth employees' rights under this section. Any health care facility or health care provider that violates this subsection shall forfeit not more than \$100 for each offense.

**History:** 1999 a. 176, 186; 2001 a. 38, 70, 74, 89, 105.

## CHAPTER 252 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

252.10 Public health dispensaries.

252.14 Discrimination related to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

252.15 Restrictions on use of a test for HIV.

**252.10 Public health dispensaries. (1)** A local health department may request from the department certification to establish and maintain a public health dispensary for the diagnosis and treatment of persons suffering from or suspected of having tuberculosis. Two or more local health departments may jointly establish, operate and maintain public health dispensaries. The department shall certify a local health department to establish and maintain a public health dispensary if the local health department meets the standards established by the department by rule. The department of health and family services may withhold, suspend or revoke a certification if the local health department fails to comply with any rules promulgated by the department. The department shall provide the local health department with reasonable notice of the decision to withhold, suspend or revoke certification. The department shall offer the local health department an opportunity to comply with the rules and an opportunity for a fair hearing. Certified local health departments may contract for public health dispensary services. If the provider of those services fails to comply, the department may suspend or revoke the local health department's certification. The department may establish, operate and maintain public health dispensaries and branches in areas of the state where local authorities have not provided public health dispensaries.

(6) (a) The state shall credit or reimburse each dispensary on an annual or quarterly basis for the operation of public health dispensaries established and maintained in accordance with this section and rules promulgated by the department.

(b) The department shall determine by rule the reimbursement rate under par. (a) for services.

(g) The reimbursement by the state under pars. (a) and (b) shall apply only to funds that the department allocates for the reimbursement under the appropriation under s. 20.435 (5) (e).

(7) Drugs necessary for the treatment of mycobacterium tuberculosis shall be purchased by the department from the appropriation under s. 20.435 (5) (e) and dispensed to patients through the public health dispensaries, local health departments, physicians or advanced practice nurse prescribers.

(9) Public health dispensaries shall maintain such records as are required by the department to enable them to carry out their responsibilities designated in this section and in rules promulgated by the department. Records may be audited by the department.

**(11)** All public health dispensaries and branches thereof shall maintain records of costs and receipts which may be audited by the department of health and family services.

**History:** 1971 c. 81; 1971 c. 211 s. 124; 1973 c. 90; 1975 c. 39, 198, 224; 1975 c. 413 ss. 2, 18; Stats. 1975 s. 149.06; 1977 c. 29; 1981 c. 20 ss. 1446, 2202 (20) (c); 1983 a. 27; 1985 a. 29; 1991 a. 39, 160; 1993 a. 27 ss. 406, 407, 409, 411 to 414; Stats. 1993 s. 252.10, 1993 a. 443; 1995 a. 27 ss. 6318, 9126 (19), 9145 (1); 1997 a. 77, 75, 156, 175, 252; 1999 a. 9, 32, 186.

**Cross Reference:** See also ch. HFS 145, Wis. adm. code. .

### 252.14 Discrimination related to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. (1) In this section:

(ad) "Correctional officer" has the meaning given in s. 301.28 (1).

(am) "Fire fighter" has the meaning given in s. 102.475 (8) (b).

(ar) "Health care provider" means any of the following:

1. A nurse licensed under ch. 441.

2. A chiropractor licensed under ch. 446.

3. A dentist licensed under ch. 447.

4. A physician licensed under subch. II of ch. 448.

4c. A perfusionist licensed under subch. III of ch. 448.

**NOTE:** Subd. 4c. is created eff. 1-1-03 by 2001 Wis. Act 89.

4e. A physical therapist licensed under subch. III of ch. 448.

**NOTE:** Subd. 4e. is amended eff. 4-1-04 by 2001 Wis. Act 70 to read: 4e. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant licensed under subch. III of ch. 448.

4g. A podiatrist licensed under subch. IV of ch. 448.

4m. A dietitian certified under subch. V of ch. 448.

4p. An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant licensed under subch. VII of ch. 448.

4q. An athletic trainer licensed under subch. VI of ch. 448.

5. An optometrist licensed under ch. 449.

6. A psychologist licensed under ch. 455.

7. A social worker, marriage and family therapist, or professional counselor certified or licensed under ch. 457.

**NOTE:** Subd. 7. is shown as amended eff. 11-1-02 by 2001 Wis. Act 80. Prior to 11-1-02 it reads:

7. A social worker, marriage and family therapist or professional counselor certified under ch. 457.

8. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under subch. II of ch. 459 or a speech and language pathologist licensed by the department of public instruction.

9. An employee or agent of any provider specified under subds. 1. to 8.

10. A partnership of any provider specified under subds. 1. to 8.

11. A corporation of any provider specified under subds. 1. to 8. that provides health care services.

12. An operational cooperative sickness care plan organized under ss. 185.981 to 185.985 that directly provides services through salaried employees in its own facility.

13. An emergency medical technician licensed under s. 146.50 (5).

14. A physician assistant licensed under ch. 448. 15. A first responder.

(c) "Home health agency" has the meaning specified in s. 50.49 (1) (a).

(d) "Inpatient health care facility" means a hospital, nursing home, community-based residential facility, county home, county mental health complex or other place licensed or approved by the department under s. 49.70, 49.71, 49.72, 50.02, 50.03, 50.35, 51.08 or 51.09 or a facility under s. 45.365, 48.62, 51.05, 51.06, 233.40, 233.41, 233.42 or 252.10.

(2) No health care provider, peace officer, fire fighter, correctional officer, state patrol officer, jailer or keeper of a jail or person designated with custodial authority by the jailer or keeper, home health agency, inpatient health care facility or person who has access to a validated test result may do any of the following with respect to an individual who has acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or has a positive test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV, solely because the individual has HIV infection or an illness or medical condition that is caused by, arises from or is related to HIV infection:

(a) Refuse to treat the individual, if his or her condition is within the scope of licensure or certification of the health care provider, home health agency or inpatient health care facility.

(am) If a peace officer, fire fighter, correctional officer, state patrol officer, jailer or keeper of a jail or person designated with custodial authority by the jailer or keeper, refuse to provide services to the individual.

(b) Provide care to the individual at a standard that is lower than that provided other individuals with like medical needs.

(bm) If a peace officer, fire fighter, correctional officer, state patrol officer, jailer or keeper of a jail or person designated with custodial authority by the jailer or keeper, provide services to the individual at a standard that is lower than that provided other individuals with like service needs.

(c) Isolate the individual unless medically necessary.

(d) Subject the individual to indignity, including humiliating, degrading or abusive treatment.

(3) A health care provider, home health agency or inpatient health care facility that tests an individual for HIV infection shall provide counseling about HIV and referral for appropriate health care and support services as necessary. A health care provider, home health agency or inpatient health care facility that treats an individual who has an HIV infection or acquired

immunodeficiency syndrome shall develop and follow procedures that shall ensure continuity of care for the individual in the event that his or her condition exceeds the scope of licensure or certification of the provider, agency or facility.

(4) Any person violating Sub. (2) is liable to the patient for actual damages and costs, plus exemplary damages of up to \$5,000 for an intentional violation. In determining the amount of exemplary damages, a court shall consider the ability of a health care provider who is an individual to pay exemplary damages.

**History:** 1989 a. 201; 1991 a. 32, 39, 160, 189, 269, 315; 1993 a. 27 ss. 326 to 331; Stats. 1993 s. 252.14; 1993 a. 105, 190, 252, 443; 1993 a. 490 s. 143; 1993 a. 491, 495; 1995 a. 27 ss. 6322, 9145 (1); 1997 a. 27, 35, 67, 75, 175; 1999 a. 9, 32, 180; 2001 a. 70, 80, 89.

## 252.15 Restrictions on use of a test for HIV.

(1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section: (ab) "Affected person" means an emergency medical technician, first responder, fire fighter, peace officer, correctional officer, person who is employed at a secured correctional facility, as defined in s. 938.02 (15m), a secured child caring institution, as defined in s. 938.02 (15g), or a secured group home, as defined in s. 938.02 (15p), state patrol officer, jailer or keeper of a jail or person designated with custodial authority by the jailer or keeper, health care provider, employee of a health care provider or staff member of a state crime laboratory.

(ad) "Correctional officer" has the meaning given in s. 301.28 (1).

(af) "Emergency medical technician" has the meaning given in s. 146.50 (1) (e).

(aj) "Fire fighter" has the meaning given in s. 102.475 (8) (b).

(am) "Health care professional" means a physician who is licensed under ch. 448 or a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse who is licensed under ch. 441.

(ar) "Health care provider" means any of the following: 1. A person or entity that is specified in s. 146.81 (l), but does not include a massage therapist or bodyworker issued a certificate under ch. 460.

**NOTE:** Subd. 1. is shown as amended eff. 3-1-03 by 2001 Wis. Act 74. Prior to 3-1-03 it reads: 1. A person or entity that is specified ins. 146.81

(l), but does not include a massage therapist or bodyworker issued a license of registration under subch. XI of ch. 440.

2. A home health agency.

3. An employee of the Mendota mental health institute or the Winnebago mental health institute.

(cm) "Home health agency" has the meaning given in s. 50.49 (1) (a).

(d) "Informed consent for testing or disclosure" means consent in writing on an informed consent for testing or disclosure form by a person to the administration of a test to him or her for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV or to the disclosure to another specified person of the results of a test administered to the person consenting.

(e) "Informed consent for testing or disclosure form" means a printed document on which a person may signify his or her informed consent for testing for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV or authorize the disclosure of any test results obtained.

(eg) "Relative" means a spouse, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, first cousin, nephew or niece; or uncle or aunt within the 3rd degree of kinship as computed under s. 990.001 (16). This relationship may be by blood, marriage or adoption.

(em) "Significantly exposed" means sustained a contact which carries a potential for a transmission of HIV, by one or more of the following:

1. Transmission, into a body orifice or onto mucous membrane, of blood; semen; vaginal secretions; cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial or amniotic fluid; or other body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood.

2. Exchange, during the accidental or intentional infliction of a penetrating wound, including a needle puncture, of blood; semen; vaginal secretions; cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial or amniotic fluid; or other body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood.

3. Exchange, into an eye, an open wound, an oozing lesion, or where a significant breakdown in the epidermal barrier has occurred, of blood; semen; vaginal secretions; cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial or amniotic fluid; or other body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood.

6. Other routes of exposure, defined as significant in rules promulgated by the department. The department in promulgating the rules shall consider all potential routes of transmission of HIV identified by the centers for disease control of the federal public health service.

(fm) "Universal precautions" means measures that a health care provider, an employee of a health care provider or other individual takes in accordance with recommendations of the federal centers for disease control for the health care provider, employee or other individual for prevention of HIV transmission in health-care settings.

(2) **INFORMED CONSENT FOR TESTING OR DISCLOSURE.** (a) No health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center may subject a person to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV unless the subject of the test first provides informed consent for testing or disclosure as specified under par. (b), except that consent to testing is not required for any of the following:

1. Except as provided in subd. 1g., a health care provider who procures, processes, distributes or uses a human body part or human tissue donated as specified under s. 157.06 (6) (a) or (b) shall, without obtaining consent to the testing, test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV in order to assure medical acceptability of the gift for the purpose intended. The health care provider shall use as a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV a test or series of tests that the state epidemiologist finds medically significant and sufficiently reliable to detect the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV. If the validated test result of the donor from the test or series of tests performed is positive, the human body part or human tissue donated for use or proposed for donation may not be used.

1g. If a medical emergency, as determined by the attending physician of a potential donee and including a threat to the preservation of life of the potential donee, exists under which a human body part or human tissue that has been subjected to testing under subd. 1. is unavailable, the requirement of subd. 1. does not apply.

2. The department, a laboratory certified under 42 USC 263a or a health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center may, for the purpose of research and without first obtaining written consent to the testing, subject any body fluids or tissues to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV if the testing is performed in a manner by which the identity of the test subject is not known and may not be retrieved by the researcher.

3. The medical director of a center for the developmentally disabled, as defined in s. 51.01 (3), or a mental health institute, as defined in s. 51.01 (12), may, without obtaining consent to the testing, subject a resident or patient of the center or institute to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV if he or she determines that the conduct of the resident or patient poses a significant risk of transmitting HIV to another resident or patient of the center or institute.

4. A health care provider may subject an individual to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV, without obtaining consent to the testing from the individual, if all of the following apply:

a. The individual has been adjudicated incompetent under ch. 880, is under 14 years of age or is unable to give consent because he or she is unable to communicate due to a medical condition.

b. The health care provider obtains consent for the testing from the individual's guardian, if the individual is adjudicated incompetent under ch. 880; from the individual's parent or guardian, if the individual is under 14 years of age; or from the individual's closest living relative or another with whom the individual has a meaningful social and emotional relationship if the individual is not a minor nor adjudicated incompetent.

6. A health care professional acting under an order of the court under subd. 7. or s. 938.296 (4) or (5) or 968.38 (4) or (5) may, without first obtaining consent to the testing, subject an individual to a test or a series of tests to detect the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV. No sample used for laboratory test purposes under this subdivision may disclose the name of the test subject, and, notwithstanding

Sub. (4) (c), the test results may not be made part of the individual's permanent medical record.

7. a. If all of the conditions under subd. 7. ai. to c. are met, an emergency medical technician, first responder, fire fighter, peace officer, correctional officer, person who is employed at a secured correctional facility, as defined in s. 938.02 (15m), a secured child caring institution, as defined in s. 938.02 (15g), or a secured group home, as defined in s. 938.02 (15p), state patrol officer, jailer or keeper of a jail or person designated with custodial authority by the jailer or keeper who, during the course of providing care or services to an individual; or a peace officer, correctional officer, state patrol officer, jailer or keeper of a jail or person designated with custodial authority by the jailer or keeper who, while searching or arresting an individual or while controlling or transferring an individual in custody; or a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider who, during the course of providing care or treatment to an individual or handling or processing specimens of body fluids or tissues of an individual; or a staff member of a state crime laboratory who, during the course of handling or processing specimens of body fluids or tissues of an individual; is significantly exposed to the individual may subject the individual's blood to a test or a series of tests for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV and may receive disclosure of the results.

ai. The affected person uses universal precautions, if any, against significant exposure, and was using universal precautions at the time that he or she was significantly exposed, except in those emergency circumstances in which the time necessary for use of the universal precautions would endanger the life of the individual.

ak. A physician, based on information provided to the physician, determines and certifies in writing that the affected person has been significantly exposed. The certification shall accompany the request for testing and disclosure. If the affected person who is significantly exposed is a physician, he or she may not make this determination or certification. The information that is provided to a physician to document the occurrence of a significant exposure and the physician's certification that an affected person has been significantly exposed, under this subd. 7. ak., shall be provided on a report form that is developed by the department of commerce under s. 101.02 (19) (a) or on a report form that the department of commerce determines, under s. 101.02 (19) (b), is substantially equivalent to the report form that is developed under s. 101.02 (19) (a).

am. The affected person submits to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV, as soon as feasible or within a time period established by the department after consulting guidelines of the centers for disease control of the federal public health service, whichever is earlier.

ap. Except as provided in subd. 7. av. to c., the test is performed on blood that is drawn for a purpose other than testing for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV.

ar. The individual, if capable of consenting, has been given an opportunity to be tested with his or her consent and has not consented.

at. The individual has been informed that his or her blood may be tested for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV; that the test results may be disclosed to no one, including that individual, without his or her consent, except to the person who is certified to have been significantly exposed; that, if the person knows the identity of the individual, he or she may not disclose the identity to any other person except for the purpose of having the test or series of tests performed; and that a record may be kept of the test results only if the record does not reveal the individual's identity.

av. If blood that is specified in subd. 7. ap. is unavailable, the person who is certified under subd. 7. ak. to have been significantly exposed may request the district attorney to apply to the circuit court for his or her county to order the individual to submit to a test or a series of tests for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV and to disclose the results to that person. The person who is certified under subd. 7. ak. to have been significantly exposed shall accompany the request with the certification under subd. 7. ak.

b. Upon receipt of a request and certification under the requirements of this subdivision, a district attorney shall, as soon

as possible so as to enable the court to provide timely notice, apply to the circuit court for his or her county to order the individual to submit to a test or a series of tests as specified in subd. 7. a., administered by a health care professional, and to disclose the results of the test or tests as specified in subd. 7. c.

c. The court shall set a time for a hearing on the matter under subd. 7. a. within 20 days after receipt of a request under subd. 7. b. The court shall give the district attorney and the individual from whom a test is sought notice of the hearing at least 72 hours prior to the hearing. The individual may have counsel at the hearing, and counsel may examine and cross-examine witnesses. If the court finds probable cause to believe that the individual has significantly exposed the affected person, the court shall, except as provided in subd. 7. d., order the individual to submit to a test or a series of tests for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV. The court shall require the health care professional who performs the test or series of tests to refrain from disclosing the test results to the individual and to disclose the test results to the affected person and his or her health care professional. No sample used for laboratory test purposes under this subd. 7. c. may disclose the name of the test subject.

d. The court is not required to order the individual to submit to a test under subd. 7. c. if the court finds substantial reason relating to the life or health of the individual not to do so and states the reason on the record.

7m. The test results of an individual under subd. 7. may be disclosed only to the individual, if he or she so consents, to anyone authorized by the individual and to the affected person who was certified to have been significantly exposed. A record may be retained of the test results only if the record does not reveal the individual's identity. If the affected person knows the identity of the individual whose blood was tested, he or she may not disclose the identity to any other person except for the purpose of having the test or series of tests performed.

(am) 1. A health care provider who procures, processes, distributes or uses human sperm donated as specified under s. 157.06 (6) (a) or (b) shall, prior to the distribution or use and with informed consent under the requirements of par. (b), test the proposed donor for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV in order to assure medical acceptability of the gift for the purpose intended. The health care provider shall use as a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV a test or series of tests that the state epidemiologist finds medically significant and sufficiently reliable under s. 252.13 (1r) to detect the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV. The health care provider shall test the donor initially and, if the initial test result is negative, shall perform a 2nd test on a date that is not less than 180 days from the date of the procurement of the sperm. No person may use the donated sperm until the health care provider has obtained the results of the 2nd test. If any validated test result of the donor for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV is positive, the sperm donated for use may not be used and, if donated, shall be destroyed.

2. A health care provider who procures, processes, distributes or uses human ova donated as specified under s. 157.06 (6) (a) or (b) shall, prior to the distribution or use and with informed consent under the requirements of par. (b), test the proposed donor for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV in order to assure medical acceptability of the gift for the purpose intended.

(b) The health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center that subjects a person to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV under pars. (a) and (am) shall, in instances under those paragraphs in which consent is required, provide the potential test subject with an informed consent form for testing or disclosure that shall contain the following information and on the form shall obtain the potential test subject's signature or may, if the potential test subject has executed a power of attorney for health care instrument under ch. 155 and has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05 (2), instead obtain the signature of the health care agent:

1. The name of the potential test subject who is giving consent and whose test results may be disclosed and, if the potential test subject has executed a power of attorney for health care

instrument under ch. 155 and has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05(2), the name of the health care agent.

2. A statement of explanation to the potential test subject that the test results may be disclosed as specified under Sub. (5) (a) and either a listing that duplicates the persons or circumstances specified under Sub. (5) (a) 2. to 19. or a statement that the listing is available upon request.

3. Spaces specifically designated for the following purposes:

a. The signature of the potential test subject or, if the potential test subject has executed a power of attorney for health care instrument under ch. 155 and has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05 (2), of the health care agent, providing informed consent for the testing and the date on which the consent is signed.

b. The name of a person to whom the potential test subject or, if the potential test subject has executed a power of attorney for health care instrument under ch. 155 and has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05 (2), the health care agent, authorizes that disclosure of test results be made, if any, the date on which the consent to disclosure is signed, and the time period during which the consent to disclosure is effective.

(bm) The health care provider that subjects a person to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV under par. (a) 3. shall provide the test subject and the test subject's guardian, if the test subject is incompetent under ch. 880, with all of the following information:

1. A statement of explanation concerning the test that was performed, the date of performance of the test and the test results.

2. A statement of explanation that the test results may be disclosed as specified under Sub. (5) (a) and either a listing that duplicates the persons or circumstances specified under Sub. (5) (a) 2. to 18. or a statement that the listing is available upon request.

**(3) WRITTEN CONSENT TO DISCLOSURE.** A person who receives a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV under Sub. (2) (b) or, if the person has executed a power of attorney for health care instrument under ch. 155 and has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05(2), the health care agent may authorize in writing a health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center to disclose the person's test results to anyone at any time subsequent to providing informed consent for disclosure under Sub. (2) (b) and a record of this consent shall be maintained by the health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center so authorized.

**(4) RECORD MAINTENANCE.** A health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center that obtains from a person a specimen of body fluids or tissues for the purpose of testing for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV shall:

(a) Obtain from the subject informed consent for testing or disclosure, as provided under Sub. (2).

(b) Maintain a record of the consent received under par. (a).

(c) Maintain a record of the test results obtained. A record that is made under the circumstances described in Sub. (2) (a) 7m. may not reveal the identity of the test subject.

**(5) CONFIDENTIALITY OF TEST.** (a) An individual who is the subject of a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV or the individual's health care agent, if the individual has executed a power of attorney for health care instrument under ch. 155 and has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05 (2), may disclose the results of the individual's test to anyone. A person who is neither the individual nor the individual's health care agent may not, unless he or she is specifically authorized by the individual to do so, disclose the individual's test results except to the following persons or under the following circumstances:

1. To the subject of the test and, if the test subject has executed a power of attorney for health care instrument under ch. 155 and has been found to be incapacitated under s. 155.05(2), the health care agent.

2. To a health care provider who provides care to the test subject, including those instances in which a health care provider provides emergency care to the subject.

3. To an agent or employee of a health care provider under subd. 2. who prepares or stores patient health care records, as defined in s. 146.81 (4), for the purposes of preparation or storage of those records; provides patient care; or handles or processes specimens of body fluids or tissues.

4. To a blood bank, blood center or plasma center that subjects a person to a test under Sub. (2) (a), for any of the following purposes: a. Determining the medical acceptability of blood or plasma secured from the test subject. b. Notifying the test subject of the test results. c. Investigating HIV infections in blood or plasma.

5. To a health care provider who procures, processes, distributes or uses a human body part donated as specified under s. 157.06 (6) (a) or (b), for the purpose of assuring medical acceptability of the gift for the purpose intended.

6. To the state epidemiologist or his or her designee, for the purpose of providing epidemiologic surveillance or investigation or control of communicable disease.

7. To a funeral director, as defined under s. 445.01 (5) or to other persons who prepare the body of a decedent for burial or other disposition or to a person who performs an autopsy or assists in performing an autopsy.

8. To health care facility staff committees or accreditation or health care services review organizations for the purposes of conducting program monitoring and evaluation and health care services reviews.

9. Under a lawful order of a court of record except as provided under s. 901.05.

10. To a person who conducts research, for the purpose of research, if the researcher:

a. Is affiliated with a health care provider under subd. 3.

b. Has obtained permission to perform the research from an institutional review board.

c. Provides written assurance to the person disclosing the test results that use of the information requested is only for the purpose under which it is provided to the researcher, the information will not be released to a person not connected with the study, and the final research product will not reveal information that may identify the test subject unless the researcher has first received informed consent for disclosure from the test subject.

11. To a person, including a person exempted from civil liability under the conditions specified under s. 895.48, who renders to the victim of an emergency or accident emergency care during the course of which the emergency caregiver is significantly exposed to the emergency or accident victim, if a physician, based on information provided to the physician, determines and certifies in writing that the emergency caregiver has been significantly exposed and if the certification accompanies the request for disclosure.

12. To a coroner, medical examiner or an appointed assistant to a coroner or medical examiner, if one or more of the following conditions exist:

a. The possible HIV-infected status is relevant to the cause of death of a person whose death is under direct investigation by the coroner, medical examiner or appointed assistant.

b. The coroner, medical examiner or appointed assistant is significantly exposed to a person whose death is under direct investigation by the coroner, medical examiner or appointed assistant, if a physician, based on information provided to the physician, determines and certifies in writing that the coroner, medical examiner or appointed assistant has been significantly exposed and if the certification accompanies the request for disclosure.

13. To a sheriff, jailer or keeper of a prison, jail or house of correction or a person designated with custodial authority by the sheriff, jailer or keeper, for whom disclosure is necessitated in order to permit the assigning of a private cell to a prisoner who has a positive test result.

14. If the test results of a test administered to an individual are positive and the individual is deceased, by the individual's attending physician, to persons, if known to the physician, with whom the individual has had sexual contact or has shared intravenous drug use paraphernalia.

15. To anyone who provides consent for the testing under Sub. (2) (a) 4. b., except that disclosure may be made under this subdivision only during a period in which the test subject is adjudicated incompetent under ch. 880, is under 14 years of age or is unable to communicate due to a medical condition.

17. To an alleged victim or victim, to a health care professional, upon request as specified in s. 938.296 (4) (e) or (5) (e) or 968.38 (4) (c) or (5) (c), who provides care to the alleged victim or victim and, if the alleged victim or victim is a minor, to the parent or



guardian of the alleged victim or victim, under s. 938.296 (4) or (5) or 968.38 (4) or (5).

18. To an affected person, under the requirements of Sub. (2) (a) 7.

19. If the test was administered to a child who has been placed in a foster home, treatment foster home, group home, residential care center for children and youth, or secured correctional facility, as defined in s. 938.02 (15m), including a placement under s. 48.205, 48.21, 938.205, or 938.21 or for whom placement in a foster home, treatment foster home, group home, residential care center for children and youth, or secured correctional facility is recommended under s. 48.33 (4), 48.425 (1) (g), 48.837 (4) (c), or 938.33 (3) or (4), to an agency directed by a court to prepare a court report under s. 48.33 (1), 48.424 (4) (b), 48.425 (3), 48.831 (2), 48.837 (4) (c), or 938.33 (1), to an agency responsible for preparing a court report under s. 48.365 (2g), 48.425 (1), 48.831 (2), 48.837 (4) (c), or 938.365 (2g), to an agency responsible for preparing a permanency plan under s. 48.355 (2e), 48.38, 48.43 (1) (c) or (5) (c), 48.63 (4) or (5) (c), 48.831 (4) (e), 938.355 (2e), or 938.38 regarding the child, or to an agency that placed the child or arranged for the placement of the child in any of those placements and, by any of those agencies, to any other of those agencies and, by the agency that placed the child or arranged for the placement of the child in any of those placements, to the child's foster parent or treatment foster parent or the operator of the group home, residential care center for children and youth, or secured correctional facility in which the child is placed, as provided in s. 48.371 or 938.371.

NOTE: Subd. 19. is shown as affected by two acts of the 2001 legislature and as merged by the revisor under s. 13.93 (2)(c).

20. To a prisoner's health care provider, the medical staff of a prison or jail in which a prisoner is confined, the receiving institution intake staff at a prison or jail to which a prisoner is being transferred or a person designated by a jailer to maintain prisoner medical records, if the disclosure is made with respect to the prisoner's patient health care records under s. 302.388, to the medical staff of a jail to whom the results are disclosed under s. 302.388 (2) (c) or (d), to the medical staff of a jail to which a prisoner is being transferred, if the results are provided to the medical staff by the department of corrections as part of the prisoner's medical file, to a health care provider to whom the results are disclosed under s. 302.388 (2) (c) or (f) or the department of corrections if the disclosure is made with respect to a prisoner's patient health care records under s. 302.388 (4).

(b) A private pay patient may deny access to disclosure of his or her test results granted under par. (a) 10. if he or she annually submits to the maintainer of his or her test results under Sub. (4) (c) a signed, written request that denial be made.

**(5m) AUTOPSIES; TESTING OF CERTAIN CORPSES.** Notwithstanding s. 157.05, a corpse may be subjected to a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV and the test results disclosed to the person who has been significantly exposed under any of the following conditions:

(a) If a person, including a person exempted from civil liability under the conditions specified under s. 895.48, who renders to the victim of an emergency or accident emergency care during the course of which the emergency caregiver is significantly exposed to the emergency or accident victim and the emergency or accident victim subsequently dies prior to testing for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV, and if a physician, based on information provided to the physician, determines and certifies in writing that the emergency caregiver has been significantly exposed and if the certification accompanies the request for testing and disclosure. Testing of a corpse under this paragraph shall be ordered by the coroner, medical examiner or physician who certifies the victim's cause of death under s. 69.18 (2) (b), (c) or (d).

(b) If a funeral director, coroner, medical examiner or appointed assistant to a coroner or medical examiner who prepares the corpse of a decedent for burial or other disposition or a person who performs an autopsy or assists in performing an autopsy is significantly exposed to the corpse, and if a physician, based on information provided to the physician, determines and certifies in writing that the funeral director, coroner, medical examiner or appointed assistant has been significantly exposed and if the certification accompanies the request for testing and disclosure. Testing of a corpse under this paragraph shall be ordered by the

attending physician of the funeral director, coroner, medical examiner or appointed assistant who is so exposed.

(c) If a health care provider or an agent or employee of a health care provider is significantly exposed to the corpse or to a patient who dies subsequent to the exposure and prior to testing for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV, and if a physician who is not the health care provider, based on information provided to the physician, determines and certifies in writing that the health care provider, agent or employee has been significantly exposed and if the certification accompanies the request for testing and disclosure. Testing of a corpse under this paragraph shall be ordered by the physician who certifies that the significant exposure has occurred.

**(5r) SALE OF TESTS WITHOUT APPROVAL PROHIBITED.** No person may sell or offer to sell in this state a test or test kit to detect the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV for self-use by an individual unless the test or test kit is first approved by the state epidemiologist. In reviewing a test or test kit under this subsection, the state epidemiologist shall consider and weigh the benefits, if any, to the public health of the test or test kit against the risks, if any, to the public health of the test or test kit.

**(6) EXPANDED DISCLOSURE OF TEST RESULTS PROHIBITED.** No person to whom the results of a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or non-antigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV have been disclosed under Sub. (5) (a) or (5m) may disclose the test results except as authorized under Sub. (5) (a) or (5m).

**(7) REPORTING OF POSITIVE TEST RESULTS.** (a) Notwithstanding ss. 227.01 (13) and 227.10 (1), for the purposes of this subsection, the state epidemiologist shall determine, based on the preponderance of available scientific evidence, the procedures necessary in this state to obtain a validated test result and the secretary shall so declare under s. 250.04 (1) or (2) (a). The state epidemiologist shall revise this determination if, in his or her opinion, changed available scientific evidence warrants a revision, and the secretary shall declare the revision under s. 250.04 (1) or (2) (a).

(b) If a positive, validated test result is obtained from a test subject, the health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center that maintains a record of the test results under Sub. (4) (c) shall report to the state epidemiologist the following information:

1. The name and address of the health care provider, blood bank, blood center or plasma center reporting.
2. The name and address of the subject's health care provider, if known.
3. The name, address, telephone number, age or date of birth, race and ethnicity, sex and county of residence of the test subject, if known.
4. The date on which the test was performed.
5. The test result.

6. Any other medical or epidemiological information required by the state epidemiologist for the purpose of exercising surveillance, control and prevention of HIV infections.

(c) Except as provided in Sub. (7m), a report made under par. (b) may not include any of the following:

1. Information with respect to the sexual orientation of the test subject.
2. The identity of persons with whom the test subject may have had sexual contact.

(d) This subsection does not apply to the reporting of information under s. 252.05 with respect to persons for whom a diagnosis of acquired immuno-deficiency syndrome has been made.

**(7m) REPORTING OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANTLY EXPOSED.** If a positive, validated test result is obtained from a test subject, the test subject's physician who maintains a record of the test result under Sub. (4) (c) may report to the state epidemiologist the name of any person known to the physician to have been significantly exposed to the test subject, only after the physician has done all of the following:

(a) Counseled the test subject to inform any person who has been significantly exposed to the test subject.

(b) Notified the test subject that the name of any person known to the physician to have been significantly exposed to the test subject will be reported to the state epidemiologist.



**(8) CIVIL LIABILITY.** (a) Any person violating Sub. (2), (5) (a), (5m), (6) or (7) (c) is liable to the subject of the test for actual damages, costs and reasonable actual attorney fees, plus exemplary damages of up to \$1,000 for a negligent violation and up to \$25,000 for an intentional violation.

(b) The plaintiff in an action under par. (a) has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation occurred under Sub. (2), (5) (a), (5m), (6) or (7) (c). **A** conviction under Sub. (2), (5) (a), (5m), (6) or (7) (c) is not a condition precedent to bringing an action under par. (a).

**(9) PENALTIES.** Whoever intentionally discloses the results of a blood test in violation of Sub. (2) (a) 7m., (5) (a) or (5m) and thereby causes bodily harm or psychological harm to the subject of the test may be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned not more than 9 months or both. Whoever negligently discloses the results of a blood test in violation of Sub. (2) (a) 7m., (5) (a) or (5m) is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$1,000 for each violation. Whoever intentionally discloses the results of a blood test in violation of Sub. (2) (a) 7m., (5) (a) or (5m), knowing that

the information is confidential, and discloses the information for pecuniary gain may be fined not more than \$100,000 or imprisoned not more than 3 years and 6 months, or both.

**(10) DISCIPLINE OF EMPLOYEES.** Any employee of the state or a political subdivision of the state who violates this section may be discharged or suspended without pay.

**History:** 1985 a. 29, 73, 120; 1987 a. 70 ss. 13 to 27, 36; 1987 a. 403 ss. 136, 256; 1989 a. 200; 1989 a. 201 ss. 11 to 25, 36; 1989 a. 298, 359; 1991 a. 269; 1993 a. 16 s. 2567; 1993 a. 27 ss. 332, 334, 337, 340, 342; Stats. 1993 s. 252.15; 1993 a. 32, 183, 190, 252, 395, 491; 1995 a. 27 ss. 6323, 9116(5), 9126 (19); 1995 a. 77, 275; 1997 a. 54, 80, 156, 188; 1999 a. 9, 32, 79, 151, 162, 188; 2001 a. 38, 59, 69, 74; s. 13.93 (2) (c).

No claim for a violation of Sub. (2) was stated when the defendants neither conducted HIV tests nor were authorized recipients of the test results. *Hillman v. Columbia County*, 164 Wis. 2d 376, 474 N.W.2d 913 (Ct. App. 1991).

This section does not prevent a court acting in equity from ordering an HIV test where this section does not apply. *Syring v. Tucker*, 174 Wis. 2d 787, 498 N.W.2d 370 (1993).

This section has no bearing on a case in which a letter from the plaintiff to the defendant pharmacy contained a reference to a drug used only to treat AIDS, but did not disclose the results of an HIV test or directly disclose that the defendant had AIDS. *Doe v. American Stores, Co.* 74 F. Supp. 2d 855 (1999).

Confidentiality of Medical Records. Meili. Wis. Law. Feb. 1995.

## CHAPTER 440 DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

### SUBCHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

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**Cross reference:** See also RL, Wis. adm. code.

### SUBCHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

**440.01 Definitions. (1)** In chs. 440 to 480, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) "Department" means the department of regulation and licensing.

(am) "Financial institution" has the meaning given in s. 705.01 (3).

(b) "Grant" means the substantive act of an examining board, section of an examining board, affiliated credentialing board or the department of approving the applicant for credentialing and the preparing, executing, signing or sealing of the credentialing.

(c) "Issue" means the procedural act of the department of transmitting the credential to the person who is credentialed.

(d) "Limit", when used in reference to limiting a credential, means to impose conditions and requirements upon the holder of the credential, and to restrict the scope of the holder's practice.

(dm) "Renewal date" means the date on which a credential expires and before which it must be renewed for the holder to maintain without interruption the rights, privileges and authority conferred by the credential.

(e) "Reprimand" means to publicly warn the holder of a credential.

(f) "Revoke", when used in reference to revoking a credential, means to completely and absolutely terminate the credential and all rights, privileges and authority previously conferred by the credential.

(g) "Secretary" means the secretary of regulation and licensing.

(h) "Suspend", when used in reference to suspending a credential, means to completely and absolutely withdraw and withhold for a period of time all rights, privileges and authority previously conferred by the credential.

**(2)** In this subchapter: (a) "Credential" means a license, permit, or certificate of certification or registration that is issued under chs. 440 to 480.

(b) "Credentialing" means the acts of an examining board, section of an examining board, affiliated credentialing board or the department that relate to granting, issuing, denying, limiting, suspending or revoking a credential.

(bm) "Credentialing board" means an examining board or an affiliated credentialing board in the department.

(c) "Examining board" includes the board of nursing.

(cs) "Minority group member" has the meaning given in s. 560.036 (1) (f).

(cv) "Psychotherapy" has the meaning given in s. 457.01 (8m).

(d) "Reciprocal credential" means a credential granted by an examining board, section of an examining board, affiliated credentialing board or the department to an applicant who holds a credential issued by a governmental authority in a jurisdiction outside this state authorizing or qualifying the applicant to perform acts that are substantially the same as those acts authorized by the credential granted by the examining board, section of the examining board, affiliated credentialing board or department.

**History:** 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 34; 1979 c. 175 s. 53; 1979 c. 221 s. 2202 (45); 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 102, 107; 1995 a. 233, 333; 1997 a. 35 s. 448; 1997 a. 237 ss. 532, 539m; 1999 a. 9 s. 2915; 2001 a. 80.

Procedural due process and the separation of functions in state occupational licensing agencies. 1974 WLR 833.

**440.02 Bonds.** Members of the staff of the department who are assigned by the secretary to collect moneys shall be bonded in an amount equal to the total receipts of the department for any month.

#### **440.03 General duties and powers of the department.**

**(1)** The department may promulgate rules defining uniform procedures to be used by the department, the real estate board, the real estate appraisers board, and all examining boards and affiliated credentialing boards attached to the department or an examining board, for receiving, filing and investigating complaints, for commencing disciplinary proceedings and for conducting hearings.

**(1m)** The department may promulgate rules specifying the number of business days within which the department or any examining board or affiliated credentialing board in the department must review and make a determination on an application for a permit, as defined in s. 560.41 (2), that is issued under chs. 440 to 480.

**(2)** The department may provide examination development services, consultation and technical assistance to other state agencies, federal agencies, counties, cities, villages, towns, national or regional organizations of state credentialing agencies, similar credentialing agencies in other states, national or regional accrediting associations, and nonprofit organizations. The department may charge a fee sufficient to reimburse the department for the costs of providing such services. In this subsection, "nonprofit organization" means a nonprofit corporation as defined in s. 181.0103 (17), and an organization exempt from tax under 26 USC 501.

**(3)** If the secretary reorganizes the department, no modification may be made in the powers and responsibilities of the examining boards or affiliated credentialing boards attached to the department or an examining board under s. 15.405 or 15.406.

**(3m)** The department may investigate complaints made against a person who has been issued a credential under chs. 440 to 480.

**(3q)** Notwithstanding sub.(3m), the department of regulation and licensing shall investigate any report that it receives under s. 146.40 (4r) (am) 2. or (em).

**(4)** The department may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents or other materials prior to the commencement of disciplinary proceedings.

**(5)** The department may investigate allegations of negligence by physicians licensed to practice medicine and surgery under ch. 448.

**(5m)** The department shall maintain a toll-free telephone number to receive reports of allegations of unprofessional conduct, negligence or misconduct involving a physician licensed under subch. III of ch. 448. The department shall publicize the toll-free telephone number and the investigative powers and duties of the department and the medical examining board as widely as possible

in the state, including in hospitals, clinics, medical offices and other health care facilities.

(6) The department shall have access to any information contained in the reports filed with the medical examining board, an affiliated credentialing board attached to the medical examining board and the board of nursing under s. 655.045, as created by 1985 Wisconsin Act 29, and s. 655.26.

(7) The department shall establish the style, content and format of all credentials and of all forms for applying for any credential issued or renewed under chs. 440 to 480. All forms shall include a place for the information required under sub.(11m) (a). Upon request of any person who holds a credential and payment of a \$10 fee, the department may issue a wall certificate signed by the governor.

(7m) The department may promulgate rules that establish procedures for submitting an application for a credential or credential renewal by electronic transmission. Any rules promulgated under this subsection shall specify procedures for complying with any requirement that a fee be submitted with the application. The rules may also waive any requirement in chs. 440 to 480 that an application submitted to the department, an examining board or an affiliated credentialing board be executed, verified, signed, sworn or made under oath, notwithstanding ss. 440.26 (2) (b), 440.42 (2) (intro.), 440.91 (2) (intro.), 443.06 (1) (a), 443.10 (2) (a), 445.04 (2), 445.08 (4), 445.095 (1) (a), 448.05 (7), 450.09 (1) (a), 452.10 (1) and 480.08 (2m).

(8) The department may promulgate rules requiring holders of certain credentials to do any of the following:

(a) Display the credential in a conspicuous place in the holder's office or place of practice or business, if the holder is not required by statute to do so.

(b) Post a notice in a conspicuous place in the holder's office or place of practice or business describing the procedures for filing a complaint against the holder.

(9) The department shall include all of the following with each biennial budget request that it makes under s. 16.42:

(a) A recalculation of the administrative and enforcement costs of the department that are attributable to the regulation of each occupation or business under chs. 440 to 480 and that are included in the budget request.

(b) A recommended change to each fee specified under s. 440.05 (1) for an initial credential for which an examination is not required, under s. 440.05 (2) for a reciprocal credential and under s. 440.08 (2) (a) for a credential renewal if the change is necessary to reflect the approximate administrative and enforcement costs of the department that are attributable to the regulation of the particular occupation or business during the period in which the initial or reciprocal credential or credential renewal is in effect and, for purposes of the recommended change to each fee specified under s. 440.08 (2) (a) for a credential renewal, to reflect an estimate of any additional moneys available for the department's general program operations, during the budget period to which the biennial budget request applies, as a result of appropriation transfers that have been or are estimated to be made under s. 20.165 (1) (i) prior to and during that budget period.

(11) The department shall cooperate with the department of health and family services to develop a program to use voluntary, uncompensated services of licensed or certified professionals to assist the department of health and family services in the evaluation of community mental health programs in exchange for continuing education credits for the professionals under ss. 448.40 (2) (e) and 455.065 (5).

(11m) (a) Each application form for a credential issued or renewed under chs. 440 to 480 shall provide a space for the department to require each of the following, other than an individual who does not have a social security number and who submits a statement made or subscribed under oath or affirmation as required under par.(am), to provide his or her social security number:

1. An applicant for an initial credential or credential renewal. If the applicant is not an individual, the department shall require the applicant to provide its federal employer identification number.

2. An applicant for reinstatement of an inactive license under s. 452.12 (6) (e).

(am) If an applicant specified in par.(a) 1. or 2. is an individual who does not have a social security number, the applicant shall

submit a statement made or subscribed under oath that the applicant does not have a social security number. The form of the statement shall be prescribed by the department of workforce development. A credential or license issued in reliance upon a false statement submitted under this paragraph is invalid.

(b) The department shall deny an application for an initial credential or deny an application for credential renewal or for reinstatement of an inactive license under s. 452.12 (6) (e) if any information required under par.(a) is not included in the application form or, in the case of an applicant who is an individual and who does not have a social security number, if the statement required under par.(am) is not included with the application form.

(c) The department of regulation and licensing may not disclose a social security number obtained under par.(a) to any person except the coordinated licensure information system under s. 441.50 (7); the department of workforce development for purposes of administering s. 49.22; and, for a social security number obtained under par.(a) 1., the department of revenue for the sole purpose of requesting certifications under s. 73.0301.

(12m) The department of regulation and licensing shall cooperate with the departments of justice and health and family services in developing and maintaining a computer linkup to provide access to information regarding the current status of a credential issued to any person by the department of regulation and licensing, including whether that credential has been restricted in any way.

(13) The department may conduct an investigation to determine whether an applicant for a credential issued under chs. 440 to 480 satisfies any of the eligibility requirements specified for the credential, including whether the applicant does not have an arrest or conviction record. In conducting an investigation under this subsection, the department may require an applicant to provide any information that is necessary for the investigation or, for the purpose of obtaining information related to an arrest or conviction record of an applicant, to complete forms provided by the department of justice or the federal bureau of investigation. The department shall charge the applicant any fees, costs or other expenses incurred in conducting the investigation under this subsection.

(14) (a) 1. The department shall grant a certificate of registration as a music therapist to a person if all of the following apply:

a. The person is certified, registered or accredited as a music therapist by the Certification Board for Music Therapists, National Music Therapy Registry, American Music Therapy Association or by another national organization that certifies, registers or accredits music therapists.

b. The organization that certified, registered or accredited the person under subd. 1. a. is approved by the department.

c. The person pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1) and files with the department evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she is certified, registered or accredited as required under subd. 1. a.

2. The department shall grant a certificate of registration as an art therapist to a person if all of the following apply:

a. The person is certified, registered or accredited as an art therapist by the Art Therapy Credentials Board or by another national organization that certifies, registers or accredits art therapists.

b. The organization that certified, registered or accredited the person under subd. 2. a. is approved by the department.

c. The person pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1) and files with the department evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she is certified, registered or accredited as required under subd. 2. a.

3. The department shall grant a certificate of registration as a dance therapist to a person if all of the following apply:

a. The person is certified, registered or accredited as a dance therapist by the American Dance Therapy Association or by another national organization that certifies, registers or accredits dance therapists.

b. The organization that certified, registered or accredited the person under subd. 3. a. is approved by the department.

c. The person pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1) and files with the department evidence satisfactory to the department that

he or she is certified, registered or accredited as required under subd.3. a.

(am) The department may promulgate rules that establish requirements for granting a license to practice psychotherapy to a person who is registered under par.(a). Rules promulgated under this paragraph shall establish requirements for obtaining such a license that are comparable to the requirements for obtaining a clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, or professional counselor license under ch. 457. If the department promulgates rules under this paragraph, the department shall grant a license under this paragraph to a person registered under par.(a) who pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1) and provides evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she satisfies the requirements established in the rules.

(b) A person who is registered under par.(a) shall notify the department in writing within 30 days if an organization specified in par.(a) 1. a., 2. a. or 3. a. revokes the person's certification, registration, or accreditation specified in par.(a) 1. a., 2. a. or 3. a. The department shall revoke a certificate of registration granted under par.(a) if such an organization revokes such a certification, registration, or accreditation. If the department revokes the certificate of registration of a person who also holds a license granted under the rules promulgated under par.(am), the department shall also revoke the license.

(c) The renewal dates for certificates granted under par.(a) and licenses granted under par.(am) are specified in s. 440.08 (2) (a). Renewal applications shall be submitted to the department on a form provided by the department and shall include the renewal fee specified in s. 440.08 (2) (a) and evidence satisfactory to the department that the person's certification, registration, or accreditation specified in par.(a) 1. a., 2. a. or 3. a. has not been revoked.

(d) The department shall promulgate rules that specify the services within the scope of practice of music, art, or dance therapy that a person who is registered under par.(a) is qualified to perform. The rules may not allow a person registered under par.(a) to perform psychotherapy unless the person is granted a license under the rules promulgated under par.(am).

Cross reference: See also chs. RL 140, 141, and 142, Wis. adm. code.

(e) Subject to the rules promulgated under sub.(1), the department may make investigations and conduct hearings to determine whether a violation of this subsection or any rule promulgated under par.(d) has occurred and may reprimand a person who is registered under par.(a) or holds a license granted under the rules promulgated under par.(am) or may deny, limit, suspend, or revoke a certificate of registration granted under par.(a) or a license granted under the rules promulgated under par.(am) if the department finds that the applicant or certificate or license holder has violated this subsection or any rule promulgated under par.(d).

(f) A person who is registered under par.(a) or holds a license granted under the rules promulgated under par.(am) who violates this subsection or any rule promulgated under par.(d) may be fined not more than \$200 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both.

(g) The department shall promulgate rules that establish the fees specified in ss. 440.05 (10) and 440.08 (2) (d).

(16) Annually, the department shall distribute the form developed by the medical and optometry examining boards under 2001 Wisconsin Act 16, section 9143 (3c), to all school districts and charter schools that offer kindergarten, to be used by pupils to provide evidence of eye examinations under s. 118.135.

History: 1977 c. 418 ss. 24, 792; 1979 c. 34, 221, 337; 1981 c. 94; 1985 a. 29, 340; 1989 a. 31, 340; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 16, 102, 107, 443, 445, 490, 491; 1995 a. 27 ss. 6472g, 6472j; 9126 (19); 1995 a. 233; 1997 a. 27, 75, 79; 1997 a. 191 ss. 312, 313, 318; 1997 a. 231, 237; 1997 a. 261 ss. 1 to 4, 7, 10, 13; 1997 a. 311; 1999 a. 9. 32: 2001 a. 16, 66, 80.

Cross reference: See also RL, Wis. adm. code

**440.035 General duties of examining boards and affiliated credentialing boards.** Each examining board or affiliated credentialing board attached to the department or an examining board shall:

(1) Independently exercise its powers, duties and functions prescribed by law with regard to rule-making, credentialing and regulation.

(2) Be the supervising authority of all personnel, other than shared personnel, engaged in the review, investigation or handling

of information regarding qualifications of applicants for credentials, examination questions and answers, accreditation, related investigations and disciplinary matters affecting persons who are credentialed by the examining board or affiliated credentialing board, or in the establishing of regulatory policy or the exercise of administrative discretion with regard to the qualifications or discipline of applicants or persons who are credentialed by the examining board, affiliated credentialing board or accreditation.

(3) Maintain, in conjunction with their operations, in central locations designated by the department, all records pertaining to the functions independently retained by them.

(4) Compile and keep current a register of the names and addresses of all persons who are credentialed to be retained by the department and which shall be available for public inspection during the times specified in s. 230.35 (4) (a). The department may also make the register available to the public by electronic transmission.

History: 1977 c. 418 ss. 25, 793, 929 (41); 1979 c. 32 s. 92 (1); 1979 c. 34; 1989 a. 56 s. 259; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 107; 1997 a. 27, 191, 237.

**440.04 Duties of the secretary.** The secretary shall: (1) Centralize, at the capital and in such district offices as the operations of the department and the attached examining boards and affiliated credentialing boards require, the routine housekeeping functions required by the department, the examining boards and the affiliated credentialing boards.

(2) Provide the bookkeeping, payroll, accounting and personnel advisory services required by the department and the legal services, except for representation in court proceedings and the preparation of formal legal opinions, required by the attached examining boards and affiliated credentialing boards.

(5) With the advice of the examining boards or affiliated credentialing boards:

(a) Provide the department with such supplies, equipment, office space and meeting facilities as are required for the efficient operation of the department.

(b) Make all arrangements for meetings, hearings and examinations.

(c) Provide such other services as the examining boards or affiliated credentialing boards request.

(6) Appoint outside the classified service an administrator for any division established in the department and a director for any bureau established in the department as authorized in s. 230.08 (2). The secretary may assign any bureau director appointed in accordance with this subsection to serve concurrently as a bureau director and a division administrator.

(7) Unless otherwise specified in chs. 440 to 480, provide examination development, administration, research and evaluation services as required.

(8) Collect data related to the registration of speech-language pathologists and audiologists under subch. III of ch. 459 and, on January 15, 1993, report the data and recommendations on whether the licensure of speech-language pathologists and audiologists under subch. III of ch. 459 is appropriate to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution in the manner provided under s. 13.172 (2).

(9) Annually prepare and submit a report to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2) on the number of minority group members who applied for licensure as a certified public accountant under ch. 442, the number who passed the examination required for licensure as a certified public accountant and the number who were issued a certified public accountant license under ch. 442, during the preceding year.

History: 1977 c. 418 s. 26; 1979 c. 34; 1981 c. 20; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 316; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 102, 107; 1995 a. 333.

**440.042 Advisory committees.** (1) The secretary may appoint persons or advisory committees to advise the department and the boards, examining boards and affiliated credentialing boards in the department on matters relating to the regulation of credential holders. The secretary shall appoint an advisory committee to advise the department on matters relating to carrying out the duties specified in s. 440.982 and making investigations, conducting hearings and taking disciplinary action under s. 440.986. A person or an advisory committee member appointed under this subsection shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for his

or her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties.

(2) Any person who in good faith testifies before the department or any examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board in the department or otherwise provides the department or any examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board in the department with advice or information on a matter relating to the regulation of a person holding a credential is immune from civil liability for his or her acts or omissions in testifying or otherwise providing such advice or information. The good faith of any person specified in this subsection shall be presumed in any civil action and an allegation that such a person has not acted in good faith must be proven by clear and convincing evidence.

**History:** 1993 a. 16 ss. 3269, 3299; 1993 a. 107; 1997 a. 156; 1999 a. 32.

**440.045 Disputes.** Any dispute between an examining board or an affiliated credentialing board and the secretary shall be arbitrated by the governor or the governor's designee after consultation with the disputants.

**History:** 1977 c. 418 s. 27; 1979 c. 34; 1993 a. 107.

The relationship between the department, cosmetology examining board, and governor is discussed. 70 Atty. Gen. 172.

**440.05 Standard fees.** The following standard fees apply to all initial credentials, except as provided in ss. 440.42, 440.43, 440.44, 440.51, 444.03, 444.05, 444.11, 447.04 (2) (c) 2., 449.17, 449.18 and 459.46:

(1) (a) Initial credential: \$53. Each applicant for an initial credential shall pay the initial credential fee to the department when the application materials for the initial credential are submitted to the department.

(b) Examination: If an examination is required, the applicant shall pay an examination fee to the department. If the department prepares, administers, or grades the examination, the fee to the department shall be an amount equal to the department's best estimate of the actual cost of preparing, administering, or grading the examination. If the department approves an examination prepared, administered, and graded by a test service provider, the fee to the department shall be an amount equal to the department's best estimate of the actual cost of approving the examination, including selecting, evaluating, and reviewing the examination.

(2) Reciprocal credential, including any credential described in s. 440.01 (2) (d) and any credential that permits temporary practice in this state in whole or in part because the person holds a credential in another jurisdiction: The applicable credential renewal fee under s. 440.08 (2) (a) and, if an examination is required, an examination fee under sub.(1).

(6) Apprentice, journeyman, student or other temporary credential, granted pending completion of education, apprenticeship or examination requirements: \$10.

(7) Replacement of lost credential, name or address change on credential, issuance of duplicate credential or transfer of credential: \$10.

(9) Endorsement of persons who are credentialed to other states: \$10.

(10) Expedited service: If an applicant for a credential requests that the department process an application on an expedited basis, the applicant shall pay a service fee that is equal to the department's best estimate of the cost of processing the application on an expedited basis, including the cost of providing counter or other special handling services.

**History:** 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 34; 1979 c. 175 s. 53; 1979 c. 221 s. 2202 (45); 1983 a. 27; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 264, 265; 329, 399, 403; 1989 a. 31, 229, 307, 316, 336, 340, 341, 359; 1991 a. 39, 269, 278, 315; 1993 a. 16; 1995 a. 27; 1997 a. 27, 96; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16.

**Cross reference:** See also ch. RL 4, Wis. adm. code

**440.055 Credit card payments.** (2) If the department permits the payment of a fee with use of a credit card, the department shall charge a credit card service charge for each transaction. The credit card service charge shall be in addition to the fee that is being paid with the credit card and shall be sufficient to pay the costs to the department for providing this service to persons who request it, including the cost of any services for which the department contracts under sub.(3).

(3) The department may contract for services relating to the payment of fees by credit card under this section.

**History:** 1995 a. 27; 1999 a. 9.

**440.06 Refunds and reexaminations.** The secretary may establish uniform procedures for refunds of fees paid under s. 440.05 or 440.08 and uniform procedures and fees for reexaminations under chs. 440 to 480.

**History:** 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 175 s. 53; 1979 c. 221 s. 2202 (45); 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 102.

**Cross reference:** See also ch. RL 4, Wis. adm. code.

**440.07 Examination standards and services.** (1) In addition to the standards specified in chs. 440 to 480, examinations for credentials shall reasonably relate to the skills likely to be needed for an applicant to practice in this state at the time of examination and shall seek to determine the applicant's preparedness to exercise the skills.

(2) The department, examining board or affiliated credentialing board having authority to credential applicants may do any of the following:

(a) Prepare, administer and grade examinations.

(b) Approve, in whole or in part, an examination prepared, administered and graded by a test service provider.

(3) The department may charge a fee to an applicant for a credential who fails an examination required for the credential and requests a review of his or her examination results. The fee shall be based on the cost of the review. No fee may be charged for the review unless the amount of the fee or the procedure for determining the amount of the fee is specified in rules promulgated by the department.

**History:** 1987 a. 27; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 102, 107.

**Cross reference:** See also ch. RL 4, Wis. adm. code. Department of Regulation and Licensing test scores were subject to disclosure under the open records law. *Munroe v. Braatz*, 201 Wis. 2d 442, 549 N.W.2d 452 (Ct. App. 1996).

**440.08 Credential renewal.** (1) **NOTICE OF RENEWAL.** The department shall give a notice of renewal to each holder of a credential at least 30 days prior to the renewal date of the credential. Notice may be mailed to the last address provided to the department by the credential holder or may be given by electronic transmission. Failure to receive a notice of renewal is not a defense in any disciplinary proceeding against the holder or in any proceeding against the holder for practicing without a credential. Failure to receive a notice of renewal does not relieve the holder from the obligation to pay a penalty for late renewal under sub.(3).

(2) **RENEWAL DATES, FEES AND APPLICATIONS.** (a) Except as provided in par.(b) and in ss. 440.51, 442.04, 444.03, 444.05, 444.11, 448.065, 447.04 (2) (c) 2., 449.17, 449.18 and 459.46, the renewal dates and renewal fees for credentials are as follows:

1. Accountant, certified public: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$59.

3. Accounting corporation or partnership: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$56.

4. Acupuncturist: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$70.

4m. Advanced practice nurse prescriber: October 1 of each even-numbered year; \$73.

5. Aesthetician: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$87.

6. Aesthetics establishment: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$70.

7. Aesthetics instructor: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$70.

8. Aesthetics school: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$1 15.

9. Aesthetics specialty school: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.

11. Appraiser, real estate, certified general: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$162.

11m. Appraiser, real estate, certified residential: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$1 67.

12. Appraiser, real estate, licensed: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$185.

13. Architect: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$60.

14. Architectural or engineering firm, partnership or corporation: February 1 of each even-numbered year; \$70.

14f. Athletic trainer: July 1 of each even-numbered year; \$53.

14g. Auction company: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$56.

14r. Auctioneer: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$1 74.

15. Audiologist: February 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$106.

16. Barbering or cosmetology establishment: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$56.

17. Barbering or cosmetology instructor: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$91.
18. Barbering or cosmetology manager: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$71.
19. Barbering or cosmetology school: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$138.
20. Barber or cosmetologist: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$63.
21. Cemetery authority: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$343.
22. Cemetery preneed seller: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$61.
23. Cemetery salesperson: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$90.
- 23m. Charitable organization: August 1 of each year; \$15.
24. Chiropractor: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$168.
25. Dental hygienist: October 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$57.
26. Dentist: October 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$131.
- 26m. Dentist, faculty member: October 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$131.
27. Designer of engineering systems: February 1 of each even-numbered year; \$58.
- 27m. Dietitian: November 1 of each even-numbered year; \$56.
28. Drug distributor: June 1 of each even-numbered year; \$70.
29. Drug manufacturer: June 1 of each even-numbered year; \$70.
30. Electrologist: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$76.
31. Electrology establishment: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$56.
32. Electrology instructor: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$86.
33. Electrology school: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$71.
34. Electrology specialty school: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
35. Engineer, professional: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$58.
- 35m. Fund-raising counsel: September 1 of each even-numbered year; \$53.
36. Funeral director: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$135.
37. Funeral establishment: June 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$56.
38. Hearing instrument specialist: February 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$106.
- 38g. Home inspector: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
- 38m. Landscape architect: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$56.
39. Land surveyor: February 1 of each even-numbered year; \$77.
42. Manicuring establishment: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
43. Manicuring instructor: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
44. Manicuring school: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$118.
45. Manicuring specialty school: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
46. Manicurist: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$133.
- 46m. Marriage and family therapist: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$84.
- 46r. Massage therapist or bodyworker: March 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
- NOTE: Subd. 46r. is created eff. 3-4-03 by 2001 Wis. Act 74.
48. Nurse, licensed practical: May 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$69.
49. Nurse, registered: March 1 of each even-numbered year; \$66.
50. Nurse-midwife: March 1 of each even-numbered year; \$70.
51. Nursing home administrator: July 1 of each even-numbered year; \$120.
52. Occupational therapist: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$59.
53. Occupational therapy assistant: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$62.
54. Optometrist: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$65.
- 54m. Perfusionist: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$56.
55. Pharmacist: June 1 of each even-numbered year; \$97.
56. Pharmacy: June 1 of each even-numbered year; \$56.
57. Physical therapist: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$62.
- 57m. Physical therapist assistant: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$44.
- NOTE: Subd. 57m. is created eff. 4-1-04 by 2001 Wis. Act 70.
58. Physician: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$106.
59. Physician assistant: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$72.
60. Podiatrist: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$150.
61. Private detective: September 1 of each even-numbered year; \$101.
62. Private detective agency: September 1 of each even-numbered year; \$53.
63. Private practice school psychologist: October 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$103.
- 63g. Private security person: September 1 of each even-numbered year; \$53.
- 63m. Professional counselor: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$76.
- 63t. Professional fund-raiser: September 1 of each even-numbered year; \$93.
- 63u. Professional geologist: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$59.
- 63v. Professional geology, hydrology or soil science firm, partnership or corporation: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$53.
- 63w. Professional hydrologist: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$53.
- 63x. Professional soil scientist: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$53.
64. Psychologist: October 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$157.
65. Real estate broker: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$128.
66. Real estate business entity: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$56.
67. Real estate salesperson: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$83.
- 67m. Registered interior designer: August 1 of each even-numbered year; \$56.
- 67q. Registered massage therapist or bodyworker: March 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
- NOTE: Subd. 67q. is repealed eff. 3-1-03 by 2001 Wis. Act 74.
- 67v. Registered music, art or dance therapist: October 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
- 67x. Registered music, art, or dance therapist with psychotherapy license: October 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$53.
68. Respiratory care practitioner: November 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$65.
- 68d. Social worker: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$63.
- 68h. Social worker, advanced practice: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$70.
- 68p. Social worker, independent: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$58.
- 68t. Social worker, independent clinical: July 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$73.
- 68v. Speech-language pathologist: February 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$63.
69. Time-share salesperson: January 1 of each odd-numbered year; \$119.
70. Veterinarian: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$105.
71. Veterinary technician: January 1 of each even-numbered year; \$58.
- (b) The renewal fee for an apprentice, journeyman, student or temporary credential is \$10. The renewal dates specified in par.(a) do not apply to apprentice, journeyman, student or temporary credentials.
- (c) Except as provided in sub.(3), renewal applications shall include the applicable renewal fee specified in pars.(a) and (b).
- (d) If an applicant for credential renewal requests that the department process an application on an expedited basis, the

applicant shall pay a service fee that is equal to the department's best estimate of the cost of processing the application on an expedited basis, including the cost of providing counter or other special handling services.

**(3) LATE RENEWAL.**(a) Except as provided in rules promulgated under par.(b), if the department does not receive an application to renew a credential before its renewal date, the holder of the credential may restore the credential by payment of the applicable renewal fee specified in sub.(2) (a) and by payment of a late renewal fee of \$25.

(b) The department or the interested examining board or affiliated credentialing board, as appropriate, may promulgate rules requiring the holder of a credential who fails to renew the credential within 5 years after its renewal date to complete requirements in order to restore the credential, in addition to the applicable requirements for renewal established under chs. 440 to 480, that the department, examining board or affiliated credentialing board determines is necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare. The rules may not require the holder to complete educational requirements or pass examinations that are more extensive than the educational or examination requirements that must be completed in order to obtain an initial credential from the department, the examining board or the affiliated credentialing board.

**(4) DENIAL OF CREDENTIAL RENEWAL.**(a) *Generally.* If the department or the interested examining board or affiliated credentialing board, as appropriate, determines that an applicant for renewal has failed to comply with sub.(2) (c) or (3) or with any other applicable requirement for renewal established under chs. 440 to 480 or that the denial of an application for renewal of a credential is necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare, the department, examining board or affiliated credentialing board may summarily deny the application for renewal by mailing to the holder of the credential a notice of denial that includes a statement of the facts or conduct that warrant the denial and a notice that the holder may, within 30 days after the date on which the notice of denial is mailed, file a written request with the department to have the denial reviewed at a hearing before the department, if the department issued the credential, or before the examining board or affiliated credentialing board that issued the credential.

(b) *Applicability.* This subsection does not apply to a denial of a credential renewal under s. 440.12 or 440.13 (2) (b).

**History:** 1991 a. 39 ss. 3305, 3313; 1991 a. 78, 160, 167, 269, 278, 315; 1993 a. 3, 16, 102, 105, 107, 443, 463, 465; 1993 a. 490 ss. 228 to 230, 274, 275; 1995 a. 27, 233, 321, 322, 461; 1997 a. 27, 75, 81, 96, 156, 191, 237, 261, 300; 1999 a. 9, 32; 2001 a. 16, 70, 74, 80, 89.

**440.11 Change of name or address.** (1) An applicant for or recipient of a credential who changes his or her name or moves from the last address provided to the department shall notify the department of his or her new name or address within 30 days of the change in writing or in accordance with other notification procedures approved by the department.

(2) The department or any examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board in the department may serve any process, notice or demand on the holder of any credential by mailing it to the last-known address of the holder as indicated in the records of the department, examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board.

(3) Any person who fails to comply with sub.(1) shall be subject to a forfeiture of \$50.

**History:** 1987 a. 27; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 107; 1997 a. 27.

**440.12 Credential denial, nonrenewal and revocation based on tax delinquency.** Notwithstanding any other provision of chs. 440 to 480 relating to issuance or renewal of a credential, the department shall deny an application for an initial credential or credential renewal or revoke a credential if the department of revenue certifies under s. 73.0301 that the applicant or credential holder is liable for delinquent taxes, as defined in s. 73.0301 (1) (c).

**History:** 1997 a. 237.

**Cross reference:** See also ch. RL 9, Wis. adm. code.

**440.13 Delinquency in support payments; failure to comply with subpoena or warrant.** (1) In this section:

(b) "Memorandum of understanding" means a memorandum of understanding entered into by the department of regulation and licensing and the department of workforce development under s. 49.857.

(c) "Support" has the meaning given in s. 49.857 (1) (g).

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of chs. 440 to 480 relating to issuance of an initial credential or credential renewal, as provided in the memorandum of understanding:

(a) With respect to a credential granted by the department, the department shall restrict, limit or suspend a credential or deny an application for an initial credential or for reinstatement of an inactive license under s. 452.12 (6) (e) if the credential holder or applicant is delinquent in paying support or fails to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of workforce development or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and related to support or paternity proceedings.

(b) With respect to credential renewal, the department shall deny an application for renewal if the applicant is delinquent in paying support or fails to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of workforce development or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and related to support or paternity proceedings.

(c) With respect to a credential granted by a credentialing board, a credentialing board shall restrict, limit or suspend a credential held by a person or deny an application for an initial credential when directed to do so by the department.

**History:** 1997 a. 191, 237.

#### **440.14 Nondisclosure of certain personal information.**

(1) In this section: (a) "List" means information compiled or maintained by the department or a credentialing board that contains the personal identifiers of 10 or more individuals.

(b) "Personal identifier" means a name, social security number, telephone number, street address, post-office box number or 9-digit extended zip code.

(2) If a form that the department or a credentialing board requires an individual to complete in order to apply for a credential or credential renewal or to obtain a product or service from the department or the credentialing board requires the individual to provide any of the individual's personal identifiers, the form shall include a place for the individual to declare that the individual's personal identifiers obtained by the department or the credentialing board from the information on the form may not be disclosed on any list that the department or the credentialing board furnishes to another person.

(3) If the department or a credentialing board requires an individual to provide, by telephone or other electronic means, any of the individual's personal identifiers in order to apply for a credential or credential renewal or to obtain a product or service from the department or a credentialing board, the department or the credentialing board shall ask the individual at the time that the individual provides the information if the individual wants to declare that the individual's personal identifiers obtained by telephone or other electronic means may not be disclosed on any list that the department or the credentialing board furnishes to another person.

(4) The department or a credentialing board shall provide to an individual upon request a form that includes a place for the individual to declare that the individual's personal identifiers obtained by the department or credentialing board may not be disclosed on any list that the department or credentialing board furnishes to another person.

(5)(a) The department or a credentialing board may not disclose on any list that it furnishes to another person a personal identifier of any individual who has made a declaration under sub.(2), (3) or (4).

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to a list that the department or a credentialing board furnishes to another state agency, a law enforcement agency or a federal governmental agency. In addition, par.(a) does not apply to a list that the department or the board of nursing furnishes to the coordinated licensure information system under s. 441.50 (7). A state agency that receives a list from the department or a credentialing board containing a personal identifier of any individual who has made a declaration under sub.(2), (3) or (4) may not disclose the personal

identifier to any person other than a state agency, a law enforcement agency or a federal governmental agency.

History: 1999 a. 88; 2001 a. 66.

**440.142 Reporting potential causes of public health emergency.** (1) A pharmacist or pharmacy shall report to the department of health and family services all of the following:

(a) An unusual increase in the number of prescriptions dispensed or nonprescription drug products sold for the treatment of medical conditions specified by the department of health and family services by rule under s. 252.02 (7).

(b) An unusual increase in the number of prescriptions dispensed that are antibiotic drugs.

(c) The dispensing of a prescription for treatment of a disease that is relatively uncommon or may be associated with bioterrorism, as defined in s. 166.02 (1r).

(2) (a) Except as provided in par.(b), a pharmacist or pharmacy may not report personally identifying information concerning an individual who is dispensed a prescription or who purchases a nonprescription drug product as specified in sub.(1) (a), (b), or (c).

(b) Upon request by the department of health and family services, a pharmacist or pharmacy shall report to that department personally identifying information other than a social security number concerning an individual who is dispensed a prescription or who purchases a nonprescription drug product as specified in sub.(1) (a), (b), or (c).

History: 2001 a. 109.

**440.20 Disciplinary proceedings.** (1) Any person may file a complaint before the department or any examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board in the department and request the department, examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board to commence disciplinary proceedings against any holder of a credential.

(3) The burden of proof in disciplinary proceedings before the department or any examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board in the department is a preponderance of the evidence.

(4) In addition to any grounds for discipline specified in chs. 440 to 480, the department or appropriate examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board in the department may reprimand the holder of a credential or deny, limit, suspend or revoke the credential of any person who intentionally violates s. 252.14 (2) or intentionally discloses the results of a blood test in violation of s. 252.15 (5) (a) or (5m).

History: 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 34; 1985 a. 29; 1989 a. 31, 201; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 16, 27, 102, 107, 490.

The constitutionality of sub.(3) is upheld. *Gandhi v. Medical Examining Board*, 168 Wis. 2d 299, 483 N.W.2d 295 (Ct. App. 1992).

A hearing is not required for a complaint filed under this section. 68 *Att'y. Gen.* 30. The "preponderance of the evidence" burden of proof under sub.(3) does not violate the due process rights of a licensee. 75 *Att'y. Gen.* 76.

**440.205 Administrative warnings.** If the department or a board, examining board or affiliated credentialing board in the department determines during an investigation that there is evidence of misconduct by a credential holder, the department, board, examining board or affiliated credentialing board may close the investigation by issuing an administrative warning to the credential holder. The department or a board, examining board or affiliated credentialing board may issue an administrative warning under this section only if the department or board, examining board or affiliated credentialing board determines that no further action is warranted because the complaint involves a first occurrence of a minor violation and the issuance of an administrative warning adequately protects the public by putting the credential holder on notice that any subsequent violation may result in disciplinary action. If an administrative warning is issued, the credential holder may obtain a review of the administrative warning through a personal appearance before the department, board, examining board or affiliated credentialing board that issued the administrative warning. Administrative warnings do not constitute an adjudication of guilt or the imposition of discipline and may not be used as evidence that the credential holder is guilty of the alleged misconduct. However, if a subsequent allegation of misconduct by the credential holder is received by the department or a board, examining board or affiliated credentialing board in the department, the matter relating to the issuance of the administrative warning may be reopened and

disciplinary proceedings may be commenced on the matter, or the administrative warning may be used in any subsequent disciplinary proceeding as evidence that the credential holder had actual knowledge that the misconduct that was the basis for the administrative warning was contrary to law. The record that an administrative warning was issued shall be a public record. The contents of the administrative warning shall be private and confidential. The department shall promulgate rules establishing uniform procedures for the issuance and use of administrative warnings.

History: 1997 a. 139.

Cross reference: See also ch. RL 8, Wis. adm. code.

**440.21 Enforcement of laws requiring credential.** (1) The department may conduct investigations, hold hearings and make findings as to whether a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a credential required under chs. 440 to 480.

(2) If, after holding a public hearing, the department determines that a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a credential required under chs. 440 to 480, the department may issue a special order enjoining the person from the continuation of the practice or use of the title.

(3) In lieu of holding a public hearing, if the department has reason to believe that a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a credential required under chs. 440 to 480, the department may petition the circuit court for a temporary restraining order or an injunction as provided in ch. 813.

(4) (a) Any person who violates a special order issued under sub.(2) may be required to forfeit not more than \$10,000 for each offense. Each day of continued violation constitutes a separate offense. The attorney general or any district attorney may commence an action in the name of the state to recover a forfeiture under this paragraph.

(b) Any person who violates a temporary restraining order or an injunction issued by a court upon a petition under sub.(3) may be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$5,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year in the county jail or both.

History: 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 102.

Cross reference: See also ch. RL 3, Wis. adm. code.

**440.22 Assessment of costs.** (1) In this section, "costs of the proceeding" means the compensation and reasonable expenses of hearing examiners and of prosecuting attorneys for the department, examining board or affiliated credentialing board, a reasonable disbursement for the service of process or other papers, amounts actually paid out for certified copies of records in any public office, postage, telephoning, adverse examinations and depositions and copies, expert witness fees, witness fees and expenses, compensation and reasonable expenses of experts and investigators, and compensation and expenses of a reporter for recording and transcribing testimony.

(2) In any disciplinary proceeding against a holder of a credential in which the department or an examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board in the department orders suspension, limitation or revocation of the credential or reprimands the holder, the department, examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board may, in addition to imposing discipline, assess all or part of the costs of the proceeding against the holder. Costs assessed under this subsection are payable to the department. Interest shall accrue on costs assessed under this subsection at a rate of 12% per year beginning on the date that payment of the costs are due as ordered by the department, examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board. Upon the request of the department of regulation and licensing, the department of justice may commence an action to recover costs assessed under this subsection and any accrued interest.

(3) In addition to any other discipline imposed, if the department, examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board assesses costs of the proceeding to the holder of the credential under sub.(2), the department, examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board may not restore, renew or otherwise issue any credential to the holder until the holder has made payment to the department under sub.(2) in the full amount assessed, together with any accrued interest.

History: 1987 a. 27; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 107; 1997 a. 27.

The collection of costs assessed under this section may not be pursued in an independent action for a money judgment. The costs may be collected only as a



condition of reinstatement of the disciplined practitioner's credentials. *State v. Dunn*, 213 Wis. 2d 363, 570 N.W.2d 614 (Ct. App. 1997).

**440.23 Cancellation of credential; reinstatement.** (1) If the holder of a credential pays a fee required under s. 440.05 (1) or (6), 440.08, 444.03, 444.05, 444.11 or 459.46 (2) (b) by check or debit or credit card and the check is not paid by the financial institution upon which the check is drawn or if the demand for payment under the debit or credit card transaction is not paid by the financial institution upon which demand is made, the department may cancel the credential on or after the 60th day after the department receives the notice from the financial institution, subject to sub.(2).

(2) At least 20 days before canceling a credential, the department shall mail a notice to the holder of the credential that informs the holder that the check or demand for payment under the debit or credit card transaction was not paid by the financial institution and that the holder's credential may be canceled on the date determined under sub.(1) unless the holder does all of the following before that date:

(a) Pays the fee for which the unpaid check or demand for payment under the credit or debit card transaction was issued.

(b) If the fee paid under par.(a) is for renewal and the credential has expired, pays the applicable penalty for late renewal specified in s. 440.08 (3).

(c) Pays the charge for an unpaid draft established by the depository selection board under s. 20.905 (2).

(3) Nothing in sub.(1) or (2) prohibits the department from extending the date for cancellation to allow the holder additional time to comply with sub.(2) (a) to (c).

(4) A cancellation of a credential under this section completely terminates the credential and all rights, privileges and authority previously conferred by the credential.

(5) The department may reinstate a credential that has been canceled under this section only if the previous holder complies with sub.(2) (a) to (c) and pays a \$30 reinstatement fee.

**History:** 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39, 189,269, 278,315; 1993 a. 16; 1995 a. 27; 1999 a. 9.

**440.25 Judicial review.** The department may seek judicial review under ch. 227 of any final disciplinary decision of the medical examining board or affiliated credentialing board attached to the medical examining board. The department shall be represented in such review proceedings by an attorney within the department. Upon request of the medical examining board or the interested affiliated credentialing board, the attorney general may represent the board. If the attorney general declines to represent the board, the board may retain special counsel which shall be paid for out of the appropriation under s. 20.165 (1) (g).

**History:** 1985 a. 340; 1993 a. 107.

## CHAPTER 450 PHARMACY EXAMINING BOARD

- 450.01 Definitions.  
450.10 Disciplinary proceedings; immunity; orders  
450.11 Prescription drugs and prescription devices.

### 450.01 Definitions. In this chapter:

(7) "Dispense" means to deliver a prescribed drug or device to an ultimate user or research subject by or pursuant to the prescription order of a practitioner, including the compounding, packaging or labeling necessary to prepare the prescribed drug or device for delivery.

### 450.10 Disciplinary proceedings; immunity; orders.

(1) In this subsection, "unprofessional conduct" includes, but is not limited to:

1. Making any materially false statement or giving any materially false information in connection with an application for a license or for renewal or reinstatement of a license.
2. Violating this chapter or, subject to s. 961.38 (4r), ch. 961 or any federal or state statute or rule which substantially relates to the practice of the licensee.
3. Practicing pharmacy while the person's ability to practice is impaired by alcohol or other drugs or physical or mental disability or disease.
4. Engaging in false, misleading or deceptive advertising.
5. Making a substantial misrepresentation in the course of practice which is relied upon by another person.
6. Engaging in conduct in the practice of the licensee which evidences a lack of knowledge or ability to apply professional principles or skills.
7. Obtaining or attempting to obtain compensation by fraud or deceit.
8. Violating any order of the board. (b) Subject to subch. II of ch. 111 and the rules adopted under s. 440.03 (1), the board may reprimand the licensee or deny, revoke, suspend or limit the license or any combination thereof of any person licensed under this chapter who has:
  1. Engaged in unprofessional conduct.
  2. Been adjudicated mentally incompetent by a court.
  3. Been found guilty of an offense the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of the licensee.

(2) In addition to or in lieu of a reprimand or denial, limitation, suspension or revocation of a license under sub. (1), the board may, for the violations enumerated under sub. (1), assess a forfeiture of not more than \$1,000 for each separate offense. Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense.

(3) (a) In this subsection, "health care professional" means any of the following:

1. A pharmacist licensed under this chapter.
2. A nurse licensed under ch. 441.
3. A chiropractor licensed under ch. 446.
4. A dentist licensed under ch. 447.
5. A physician, physician assistant, podiatrist, physical therapist, occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant licensed under ch. 448.

NOTE: Subd. 5. is amended eff. 4-1-04 by 2001 Wis. Act 70 to read: 5. A physician, physician assistant, podiatrist, physical therapist, physical therapist assistant, occupational therapist, or occupational therapy assistant licensed under ch. 448.

5m. A dietitian certified under subch. V of ch. 448.

5q. An athletic trainer licensed under subch. VI of ch. 448.

6. An optometrist licensed under ch. 449.

7. An acupuncturist certified under ch. 451.

8. A veterinarian licensed under ch. 453.

9. A psychologist licensed under ch. 455.

10. A social worker, marriage and family therapist, or professional counselor certified or licensed under ch. 457.

NOTE: Subd. 10. is shown as amended eff. 11-1-02 by 2001 Wis. Act 80. Prior to 11-1-02 it reads: 10. A social worker, marriage and family therapist or professional counselor certified under ch. 457.

11. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under subch. II of ch. 459 or a speech and language pathologist licensed by the department of public instruction.

(b) Any health care professional who in good faith provides another health care professional with information concerning a violation of this chapter or ch. 961 by any person shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability that results from any act or omission in providing such information. In any administrative or court proceeding, the good faith of the health care professional providing such information shall be presumed.

(4) (a) The secretary may, in case of the need for emergency action, issue general and special orders necessary to prevent or correct actions by any pharmacist under this section that would be cause for suspension or revocation of a license.

(b) Special orders may direct a pharmacist to cease and desist from engaging in particular activities.

History: 1985 a. 146; 1987 a. 264, 399; 1989 a. 31, 316; 1991 a. 39, 160; 1993 a. 222, 443; 1995 a. 27 s. 9145 (1); 1995 a. 448; 1997 a. 27, 67, 75, 175; 1999 a. 9, 32, 180; 2001 a. 70, 80.

Cross Reference: See also ch. Phar 10, Wis. adm. code.

### 450.11 Prescription drugs and prescription devices.

(1) DISPENSING. No person may dispense any prescribed drug or device except upon the prescription order of a practitioner. All prescription orders shall specify the date of issue, the name and address of the patient, the name and address of the practitioner, the name and quantity of the drug product or device prescribed, directions for the use of the drug product or device and, if the order is written by the practitioner, the signature of the practitioner. Any oral prescription order shall be immediately reduced to writing by the pharmacist and filed according to sub. (2).

(1m) ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION. Except as provided in s. 453.068 (1) (c) 4., a practitioner may transmit a prescription order electronically only if the patient approves the transmission and the prescription order is transmitted to a pharmacy designated by the patient.

(2) PRESCRIPTION ORDER FILE. Every prescription order shall be filed in a suitable book or file and preserved for at least 5 years. Subject to s. 961.38 (2), prescription orders transmitted electronically may be filed a

## CHAPTER 451

### ACUPUNCTURE

451.01 Definitions.  
451.02 Applicability.  
451.04 Certification.  
451.06 Examination.

451.08 Reciprocal certificate.  
451.12 Infection control.  
451.14 Disciplinary proceedings and actions.  
451.16 Penalties.

**Cross-reference:** See definitions in s.440.01

**Cross Reference:** See also chs. RL 70.71.72. and 73, Wis. adm. code

#### 451.01 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) "Acupuncture" means promoting, maintaining or restoring health or diagnosing, preventing or treating disease based on traditional Oriental medical concepts of treating specific areas of the human body, known as acupuncture points or meridians, by performing any of the following practices:

- (a) Inserting acupuncture needles.
- (b) Moxibustion.
- (c) Applying manual, thermal or electrical stimulation or any other secondary therapeutic technique.

(2) "Acupuncturist" means a person who is engaged in the practice of acupuncture.

**History:** 1989 a. 31, 336.

**Cross Reference:** See also s. RL 70.02, Wis. adm. code.

#### 451.02 Applicability. Nothing in this chapter requires a certificate under this chapter for any of the following:

(1) An individual holding a license, permit or certificate under ch. 441, 446, 447, 448 or 449 who engages in a practice of acupuncture that is also included within the scope of his or her license, permit or certificate.

(2) An individual assisting an acupuncturist in practice under the direct supervision of the acupuncturist.

(3) An individual who engages in the practice of acupuncture as part of a supervised course of study or residency program in acupuncture that is approved by the department if the individual is designated by a title that clearly indicates his or her status as a student or trainee.

**History:** 1989 a. 31, 336.

#### 451.04 Certification. (1) ACUPUNCTURIST CERTIFICATE REQUIRED. No person may engage in the practice of acupuncture or use the title "acupuncturist" or any similar title unless the person is certified as an acupuncturist by the department.

(2) ACUPUNCTURIST CERTIFICATE. The department shall grant an acupuncturist certificate to any individual who does all of the following:

- (a) Submits an application for the certificate to the department on a form provided by the department.
- (b) Pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1).
- (c) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322 and 111.335, submits evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she does not have an arrest or conviction record.
- (d) Subject to s. 451.08, submits evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she has completed a course of study and residency program in acupuncture that meets standards established by the department by rule.
- (e) Subject to s. 451.08, passes an examination approved by the department to determine fitness as an acupuncturist.

(3) POSTING OF CERTIFICATE. The department shall issue a certificate to each individual who satisfies the requirements in sub. (2) or s. 451.08, certifying that the holder is authorized to practice acupuncture in this state. The holder shall post the certificate in a conspicuous place in his or her place of business.

(4) EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL. Renewal applications shall be submitted to the department on a form provided by the department on or before the applicable renewal date specified under s. 440.08 (2) (a) and shall include the applicable renewal fee specified under s. 440.08 (2) (a).

**History:** 1989 a. 31, 336, 359; 1991 a. 39.

**Cross Reference:** See also ch. RL 71, Wis. adm. code.

#### 451.06 Examination. (1) Examinations shall consist of written or practical tests, or both, requiring applicants to demonstrate minimum competency in services and subjects substantially related to the practice of acupuncture.

(2) A person is not eligible for examination unless the person has satisfied the requirements for certification under s. 451.04 (2) (a) to (d) at least 30 days before the date of the examination.

**History:** 1989 a. 31, 336.

451.08 Reciprocal certificate. Upon application and payment of the fee specified in s. 440.05 (2), the department shall grant an acupuncturist certificate to any applicant who holds an acupuncturist certificate or license in another state or territory of the United States if the department determines that the applicant has actively engaged in the practice of acupuncture for at least 5 years or that the requirements for certification or licensure in the other state or territory are substantially equivalent to the requirements under s. 451.04 (2).

**History:** 1989 a. 31, 336.

**Cross Reference:** See also ch. RL 71, Wis. adm. code.

451.12 Infection control. The department shall promulgate rules relating to the prevention of infection, the sterilization of needles and other equipment or materials capable of transmitting infection and the safe disposal of potentially infectious materials. The rules shall require acupuncture needles to be thoroughly cleansed with an antiseptic solution prior to sterilization by autoclave and shall permit an acupuncturist to use needles that are presterilized, prewrapped and disposable.

**History:** 1989 a. 31, 336.

**Cross Reference:** See also ch. RL 72, Wis. adm. code.

451.14 Disciplinary proceedings and actions. (1) Subject to the rules promulgated under s. 440.03 (1), the department may make investigations or conduct hearings to determine whether a violation of this chapter or any rule promulgated under this chapter has occurred.

(2) Subject to the rules promulgated under s. 440.03 (1), the department may reprimand a certified acupuncturist or deny, limit, suspend or revoke a certificate under this chapter if it finds that the applicant or certified acupuncturist has done any of the following:

- (a) Made a material misstatement in an application for a certificate or renewal.
- (b) Engaged in conduct while practicing acupuncture which evidences a lack of knowledge or ability to apply professional principles or skills.
- (c) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322 and 111.335, been arrested or convicted of an offense committed while certified as an acupuncturist.

(d) Advertised in a manner that is false, deceptive or misleading.

(e) Impersonated another individual who holds a certificate under this chapter or allowed another individual to use his or her acupuncturist certificate.

(f) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322 and 111.34, practiced acupuncture while the individual's ability to practice was impaired by alcohol or other drugs.

(g) Violated this chapter or any rule promulgated under this chapter.

(3) In addition to or in lieu of a reprimand or denial, limitation,

suspension or revocation of a certificate under sub. (2), the department may assess against an applicant or certified acupuncturist a forfeiture of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 for each violation enumerated under sub. (2).

**History:** 1989 a. 31.336.

**Cross Reference:** See also ch. RL 73, Wis. adm. code.

**451.16 Penalties.** Any person who violates this chapter or any rule promulgated under this chapter may be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 90 days or both.

**History:** 1989 a. 31.

## Chapter RL 1

## PROCEDURES TO REVIEW DENIAL OF AN APPLICATION

RL 1.01	Authority and scope.
RL 1.03	Definitions.
RL 1.04	Examination failure: retake and hearing.
RL 1.05	Notice of intent to deny and notice of denial.
RL 1.06	Parties to a denial review proceeding.
RL 1.07	Request for hearing.

RL 1.08	Procedure.
RL 1.09	Conduct of hearing.
RL 1.10	Service.
RL 1.11	Failure to appear.
RL 1.12	Withdrawal of request.
RL 1.13	Transcription fees.

**RL 1.01 Authority and scope.** Rules in this chapter are adopted under authority in s. 440.03 (1), Stats., for the purpose of governing review of a decision to deny an application. Rules in this chapter do not apply to denial of an application for renewal of a credential. Rules in this chapter shall apply to applications received on or after July 1, 1996.

**Note:** Procedures used for denial of an application for renewal of a credential are found in Ch. RL 2, Wis. Admin. Code and s. 227.01 (3) (b), Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1985, No. 358, eff. 11-1-85; **am., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.**

**RL 1.02 Scope.** **History:** Cr. Register, October, 1985, No. 358, eff. 11-1-85; **r., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.**

**RL 1.03 Definitions.** In this chapter:

(1) “Applicant” means any person who applies for a credential from the applicable credentialing authority. “Person” in this subsection includes a business entity.

(2) “Credential” means a license, permit, or certificate of certification or registration that is issued under chs. 440 to 480, Stats.

(3) “Credentialing authority” means the department or an attached examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board having authority to issue or deny a credential.

(4) “Denial review proceeding” means a class I proceeding as defined in s. 227.01 (3) (a), Stats., in which a credentialing authority reviews a decision to deny a completed application for a credential.

(5) “Department” means the department of regulation and licensing.

(6) “Division” means the division of enforcement in the department.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1985, No. 358, eff. 11-1-85; correction in (4) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, May, 1988, No. 389; **am. (1), (4), r. (2), renum. (3) to be (5), cr. (2), (3), (6), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.**

**RL 1.04 Examination failure: retake and hearing.**

(1) An applicant may request a hearing to challenge the validity, scoring or administration of an examination if the applicant has exhausted other available administrative remedies, including, but not limited to, internal examination review and regrading, and if either:

(a) The applicant is no longer eligible to retake a qualifying examination.

(b) Reexamination is not available within 6 months from the date of the applicant’s last examination.

(2) A failing score on an examination does not give rise to the right to a hearing if the applicant is eligible to retake the examination and reexamination is available within 6 months from the date of the applicant’s last examination.

**Note:** An applicant is not eligible for a license until his or her application is complete. An application is not complete until an applicant has submitted proof of having successfully passed any required qualifying examination. If an applicant fails the qualifying examination: but has the right to retake it within 6 months, the applicant is not entitled to a hearing under this chapter.

**History:** Cr., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.05 Request for hearing.** **History:** Cr. Register, October, 1985, No. 355, eff. 11-1-85; corrections in (2) (a) and (b) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, May, 1988, No. 389; **r. Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.**

**RL 1.05 Notice of intent to deny and notice of denial.**

(1) NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY. (a) A notice of intent to deny may

be issued upon an initial determination that the applicant does not meet the eligibility requirements for a credential. A notice of intent to deny shall contain a short statement in plain language of the basis for the anticipated denial, specify the statute, rule or other standard upon which the denial will be based and state that the application shall be denied unless, within 45 calendar days from the date of the mailing of the notice, the credentialing authority receives additional information which shows that the applicant meets the requirements for a credential. The notice shall be substantially in the form shown in Appendix I.

(b) If the credentialing authority does not receive additional information within the 45 day period, the notice of intent to deny shall operate as a notice of denial and the 45 day period for requesting a hearing described in s. RL 1.07 shall commence on the date of mailing of the notice of intent to deny.

(c) If the credentialing authority receives additional information within the 45 day period which fails to show that the applicant meets the requirements for a credential, a notice of denial shall be issued under sub. (2).

(2) NOTICE OF DENIAL. If the credentialing authority determines that an applicant does not meet the requirements for a credential, the credentialing authority shall issue a notice of denial in the form shown in Appendix II. The notice shall contain a short statement in plain language of the basis for denial, specify the statute, rule or other standard upon which the denial is based, and be substantially in the form shown in Appendix II.

**History:** Cr., Register, July, 1996, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.06 Parties to a denial review proceeding.** Parties to a denial review proceeding are the applicant, the credentialing authority and any person admitted to appear under s. 227.44 (2m), Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1985, No. 358, eff. 11-1-85; **renum. from RL 1.04 and am., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.**

**RL 1.07 Request for hearing.** An applicant may request a hearing within 45 calendar days after the mailing of a notice of denial by the credentialing authority. The request shall be in writing and set forth all of the following:

(1) The applicant’s name and address.

(2) The type of credential for which the applicant has applied.

(3) A specific description of the mistake in fact or law which constitutes reasonable grounds for reversing the decision to deny the application for a credential. If the applicant asserts that a mistake in fact was made, the request shall include a concise statement of the essential facts which the applicant intends to prove at the hearing. If the applicant asserts a mistake in law was made, the request shall include a statement of the law upon which the applicant relies.

**History:** Cr., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.08 Procedure.** The procedures for a denial review proceeding are:

(1) REVIEW OF REQUEST FOR HEARING. Within 45 calendar days of receipt of a request for hearing, the credentialing authority or its designee shall grant or deny the request for a hearing on a denial of a credential. A request shall be granted if requirements in s. RL 1.07 are met, and the credentialing authority or its designee shall

notify the applicant of the time, place and nature of the hearing. If the requirements in s. RL 1.07 are not met, a hearing shall be denied, and the credentialing authority or its designee shall inform the applicant in writing of the reason for denial. For purposes of a petition for review under s. 227.52, Stats., a request is denied if a response to a request for hearing is not issued within 45 calendar days of its receipt by the credentialing authority.

**(2) DESIGNATION OF PRESIDING OFFICER.** An administrative law judge employed by the department shall preside over denial hearings, unless the credentialing authority designates otherwise. The administrative law judge shall be an attorney in the department designated by the department general counsel, an employee borrowed from another agency pursuant to s. 20.901, Stats., or a person employed as a special project or limited term employee by the department, except that the administrative law judge may not be an employee in the division.

**(3) DISCOVERY.** Unless the parties otherwise agree, no discovery is permitted, except for the taking and preservation of evidence as provided in ch. 804, Stats., with respect to witnesses described in s. 227.45 (7) (a) to (d), Stats. An applicant may inspect records under s. 19.35, Stats., the public records law.

**(4) BURDEN OF PROOF.** The applicant has the burden of proof to show by evidence satisfactory to the credentialing authority that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements set by law for the credential.

History: Cr., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.09 Conduct of hearing. (1) RECORD.** A stenographic, electronic or other record shall be made of all hearings in which the testimony of witnesses is offered as evidence, and of other oral proceedings when requested by a party.

**(2) ADJOURNMENTS.** The presiding officer may, for good cause, grant continuances, adjournments and extensions of time.

**(3) SUBPOENAS.** (a) Subpoenas for the attendance of any witness at a hearing in the proceeding may be issued in accordance with s. 227.45 (6m), Stats.

(b) A presiding officer may issue protective orders according to the provisions of s. 805.07, Stats.

**(4) MOTIONS.** All motions, except those made at hearing, shall be in writing, filed with the presiding officer and a copy served upon the opposing party not later than 5 days before the time specified for hearing the motion.

**(5) EVIDENCE.** The credentialing authority and the applicant shall have the right to appear in person or by counsel, to call, examine and cross-examine witnesses and to introduce evidence into the record. If the applicant submits evidence of eligibility for a credential which was not submitted to the credentialing authority prior to denial of the application, the presiding officer may request the credentialing authority to reconsider the application and the evidence of eligibility not previously considered.

**(6) BRIEFS.** The presiding officer may require the filing of briefs.

**(7) LOCATION OF HEARING.** All hearings shall be held at the offices of the department in Madison unless the presiding officer determines that the health or safety of a witness or of a party or an emergency requires that a hearing be held elsewhere.

History: Cr., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.10 Service.** Service of any document on an applicant may be made by mail addressed to the applicant at the last address filed in writing by the applicant with the credentialing authority. Service by mail is complete on the date of mailing.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1985, No. 358, eff. 11-1-85; renum. from RL 1.06 and am., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.11 Failure to appear.** In the event that neither the applicant nor his or her representative appears at the time and place designated for the hearing, the credentialing authority may take action based upon the record as submitted. By failing to appear, an applicant waives any right to appeal before the credentialing authority which denied the license.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1985, No. 358, eff. 11-1-85; renum. from RL 1.07 and am., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.12 Withdrawal of request.** A request for hearing may be withdrawn at any time. Upon receipt of a request for withdrawal, the credentialing authority shall issue an order affirming the withdrawal of a request for hearing on the denial.

History: Cr., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 1.13 Transcription fees. (1)** The fee charged for a transcript of a proceeding under this chapter shall be computed by the person or reporting service preparing the transcript on the following basis:

(a) If the transcript is prepared by a reporting service, the fee charged for an original transcription and for copies shall be the amount identified in the state operational purchasing bulletin which identifies the reporting service and its fees.

(b) If a transcript is prepared by the department, the department shall charge a transcription fee of \$1.75 per page and a copying charge of \$.25 per page. If 2 or more persons request a transcript, the department shall charge each requester a copying fee of \$.25 per page, but may divide the transcript fee equitably among the requesters. If the department has prepared a written transcript for its own use prior to the time a request is made, the department shall assume the transcription fee, but shall charge a copying fee of \$.25 per page.

**(2)** A person who is without means and who requires a transcript for appeal or other reasonable purposes shall be furnished with a transcript without charge upon the filing of a petition of indigency signed under oath. For purposes of this section, a determination of indigency shall be based on the standards used for making a determination of indigency under s. 977.07, Stats.

History: Cr., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**Chapter RL 1**

**APPENDIX I**

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY**

---

[DATE]  
[NAME and  
ADDRESS OF APPLICANT]

Re: Application for [TYPE OF CREDENTIAL]; Notice of Intent to Deny

Dear [APPLICANT]:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the state of Wisconsin [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] has reviewed your application for a [TYPE OF CREDENTIAL]. On the basis of the application submitted, the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] intends to deny your application for reasons identified below unless, within 45 calendar days from the date of the mailing of this notice, the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] receives additional information which shows that you meet the requirements for a credential.

[STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DENIAL]

The legal basis for this decision is:

[SPECIFY THE STATUTE, RULE OR OTHER STANDARD UPON  
WHICH THE DENIAL WILL BE BASED]

If the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] does not receive additional information within the 45 day period, this notice of intent to deny shall operate as a notice of denial and the 45 day period you have for requesting a hearing shall commence on the date of mailing of this notice of intent to deny.

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[Designated Representative of Credentialing Authority]

PLEASE NOTE that you have a right to a hearing on the denial of your application if you file a request for hearing in accordance with the provisions of Ch. RL 1 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. If you do not submit additional information in support of your application, you may request a hearing within 45 calendar days after the mailing of this notice. Your request must be submitted in writing to the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] at:

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The request must contain your name and address, the type of credential for which you have applied, a specific description of the mistake in fact or law that you assert was made in the denial of your credential, and a concise statement of the essential facts which you intend to prove at the hearing. You will be notified in writing of the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY'S] decision. Under s. RL 1.05 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, a request for a hearing is denied if a response to a request for a hearing is not issued within 45 days of its receipt by the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY]. Time periods for a petition for review begin to run 45 days after the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] has received a request for a hearing and has not responded.

**Chapter RL 1**  
**APPENDIX II**  
**NOTICE OF DENIAL**

---

[DATE]  
[NAME and  
ADDRESS OF APPLICANT]

Re: Application for [TYPE OF CREDENTIAL]; Notice of Denial

Dear [APPLICANT]:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the state of Wisconsin [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] has reviewed your application for a [TYPE OF CREDENTIAL] and denies the application for the following reasons:

[STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DENIAL]

The legal basis for this decision is:

[SPECIFY THE STATUTE, RULE OR OTHER STANDARD UPON  
WHICH THE DENIAL WILL BE BASED]

---

[Designated Representative of Credentialing Authority]

PLEASE NOTE that you have a right to a hearing on the denial of your application if you file a request for hearing in accordance with the provisions of Ch. RL 1 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. You may request a hearing within 45 calendar days after the mailing of this notice of denial. Your request must be submitted in writing to the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] at:

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 5935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The request must contain your name and address, the type of credential for which you have applied, a specific description of the mistake in fact or law that you assert was made in the denial of your credential, and a concise statement of the essential facts which you intend to prove at the hearing. You will be notified in writing of the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY'S] decision. Under s. RL 1.08 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, a request for a hearing is denied if a response to a request for a hearing is not issued within 45 days of its receipt by the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY]. Time periods for a petition for review begin to run 45 days after the [CREDENTIALING AUTHORITY] has received a request for a hearing and has not responded.



## Chapter RL 2

## PROCEDURES FOR PLEADING AND HEARINGS

RL 2.01	Authority.	RL 2.09	Answer.
RL 2.02	Scope; kinds of proceedings.	RL 2.10	Administrative law judge
RL 2.03	Definitions.	RL 2.11	Prehearing conference.
RL 2.035	Receiving informal complaints.	RL 2.12	Settlements.
RL 2.036	Procedure for settlement conferences.	RL 2.13	Discovery.
RL 2.037	Parties to a disciplinary proceeding.	RL 2.14	Default.
RL 2.04	Commencement of disciplinary proceedings.	RL 2.15	Conduct of hearing.
RL 2.05	Pleadings to be captioned.	RL 2.16	Witness fees and costs.
RL 2.06	Complaint.	RL 2.17	Transcription fees.
RL 2.07	Notice of hearing.	RL 2.18	Assessment of costs.
RL 2.08	Service and filing of complaint, notice of hearing and other papers.		

**RL 2.01 Authority.** The rules in ch. RL 2 are adopted pursuant to authority in s. 440.03 (1), Stats., and procedures in ch. 227, Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. Register, May, 1982, No. 317, eff. 6-1-82.

**RL 2.02 Scope; kinds of proceedings.** The rules in this chapter govern procedures in class 2 proceedings, as defined in s. 227.01 (3) (b), Stats., against licensees before the department and all disciplinary authorities attached to the department, except that s. RL 2.17 applies also to class 1 proceedings, as defined in s. 227.01 (3) (a), Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. Register, May, 1982, No. 317, eff. 6-1-82; corrections made under s. 13.93(2m)(b) 7, Stats., Register, May, 1988, No. 389; am. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.03 Definitions.** In this chapter:

- (1) "Complainant" means the person who signs a complaint.
- (2) "Complaint" means a document which meets the requirements of ss. RL 2.05 and 2.06.
- (3) "Department" means the department of regulation and licensing.
- (4) "Disciplinary authority" means the department or the attached examining board or board having authority to revoke the license of the holder whose conduct is under investigation.
- (5) "Disciplinary proceeding" means a proceeding against one or more licensees in which a disciplinary authority may determine to revoke or suspend a license, to reprimand a licensee, to limit a license, to impose a forfeiture, or to refuse to renew a license because of a violation of law.
- (6) "Division" means the division of enforcement in the department.
- (7) "Informal complaint" means any written information submitted to the division or any disciplinary authority by any person which requests that a disciplinary proceeding be commenced against a licensee or which alleges facts, which if true, warrant discipline.
- (8) "Licensee" means a person, partnership, corporation or association holding any license, permit, certificate or registration granted by a disciplinary authority or having any right to renew a license, permit, certificate or registration granted by a disciplinary authority.
- (9) "Respondent" means the person against whom a disciplinary proceeding has been commenced and who is named as respondent in a complaint.
- (10) "Settlement conference" means a proceeding before a disciplinary authority or its designee conducted according to s. RL 2.036, in which a conference with one or more licensee is held to

attempt to reach a fair disposition of an informal complaint prior to the commencement of a disciplinary proceeding.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (1) and (6), renum. (7) and (8) to be (8) and (9), cr. (7), Register, May, 1982, No. 317, eff. 6-1-82; renum. (2) to (4) to be (1) to (3), cr. (4) and (10), am. (5), (7) and (8), Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.035 Receiving informal complaints.** All informal complaints received shall be referred to the division for filing; screening and, if necessary, investigation. Screening shall be done by the disciplinary authority, or, if the disciplinary authority directs, by a disciplinary authority member or the division. In this section, screening is a preliminary review of complaints to determine whether an investigation is necessary. Considerations in screening include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Whether the person complained against is licensed;
- (2) Whether the violation alleged is a fee dispute;
- (3) Whether the matter alleged, if taken as a whole, is trivial; and
- (4) Whether the matter alleged is a violation of any statute, rule or standard of practice.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1982, No. 317, eff. 6-1-82; am. (intro.) and (3), Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.036 Procedure for settlement conferences.** At the discretion of the disciplinary authority, a Settlement conference may be held prior to the commencement of a disciplinary proceeding, pursuant to the following procedures:

(1) **SELECTION OF INFORMAL COMPLAINTS.** The disciplinary authority or its designee may determine that a settlement conference is appropriate during an investigation of an informal complaint if the information gathered during the investigation presents reasonable grounds to believe that a violation of the laws enforced by the disciplinary authority has occurred. Considerations in making the determination may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Whether the issues arising out of the investigation of the informal complaint are clear, discrete and sufficiently limited to allow for resolution in the informal setting of a settlement conference; and
- (b) Whether the facts of the informal complaint are undisputed or clearly ascertainable from the documents received during investigation by the division.

(2) **PROCEDURES.** When the disciplinary authority or its designee has selected an informal complaint for a possible settlement conference, the licensee shall be contacted by the division to determine whether the licensee desires to participate in a settlement conference. A notice of settlement conference and a description of settlement conference procedures, prepared on forms prescribed by the department, shall be sent to all participants in ad-

vance of any settlement conference. A settlement conference shall not be held without the consent of the licensee. No agreement reached between the licensee and the disciplinary authority or its designee at a settlement conference which imposes discipline upon the licensee shall be binding until the agreement is reduced to writing, signed by the licensee, and accepted by the disciplinary authority.

**(3) ORAL STATEMENTS AT SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE.** Oral statements made during a settlement conference shall not be introduced into or made part of the record in a disciplinary proceeding.

History: Cr. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.037 Parties to a disciplinary proceeding.** Parties to a disciplinary proceeding are the respondent, the division and the disciplinary authority before which the disciplinary proceeding is heard.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1982, No. 317, eff. 6-1-82; renum. from RL 2.036 and am., Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.04 Commencement of disciplinary proceedings.** Disciplinary proceedings are commenced when a notice of hearing is filed in the disciplinary authority office or with a designated administrative law judge.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1979, No. 278, eff. 3-1-79; am. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.05 Pleadings to be captioned.** All pleadings, notices, orders, and other papers filed in disciplinary proceedings shall be captioned: "BEFORE THE \_\_\_\_\_" and shall be entitled: "IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST \_\_\_\_\_, RESPONDENT."

History: Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78.

**RL 2.06 Complaint.** A complaint may be made on information and belief and shall contain:

**(1)** The name and address of the licensee complained against and the name and address of the complainant;

**(2)** A short statement in plain language of the cause for disciplinary action identifying with reasonable particularity the transaction, occurrence or event out of which the cause arises and specifying the statute, rule or other standard alleged to have been violated;

**(3)** A request in essentially the following form: "Wherefore, the complainant demands that the disciplinary authority hear evidence relevant to matters alleged in this complaint, determine and impose the discipline warranted, and assess the costs of the proceeding against the respondent;" and,

**(4)** The signature of the complainant.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (intro.), (3) and (4), Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.07 Notice of hearing.** **(1)** Notice of hearing shall be sent to the respondent at least 10 days prior to the hearing, unless for good cause such notice is impossible or impractical, in which case shorter notice may be given, but in no case may the notice be provided less than 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

**(2)** A notice of hearing to the respondent shall be substantially in the form shown in Appendix I and signed by a disciplinary authority member or an attorney in the division.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (2) (intro.), Register, February, 1979, No. 278, eff. 3-1-79; r. and recr. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.08 Service and filing of complaint, notice of hearing and other papers.** **(1)** The complaint, notice of hearing, all orders and other papers required to be served on a respondent may be served by mailing a copy of the paper to the respondent at the last known address of the respondent or by any procedure described in s. 801.14(2), Stats. Service by mail is complete upon mailing.

**(2)** Any paper required to be filed with a disciplinary authority may be mailed to the disciplinary authority office or, if an administrative law judge has been designated to preside in the matter, to the administrative law judge and shall be deemed filed on receipt at the disciplinary authority office or by the administrative law judge. An answer under s. RL 2.09, and motions under s. RL 2.15 may be filed and served by facsimile transmission. A document filed by facsimile transmission under this section shall also be mailed to the disciplinary authority. An answer or motion filed by facsimile transmission shall be deemed filed on the first business day after receipt by the disciplinary authority.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (2), Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.09 Answer.** **(1)** An answer to a complaint shall state in short and plain terms the defenses to each cause asserted and shall admit or deny the allegations upon which the complainant relies. If the respondent is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation, the respondent shall so state and this has the effect of a denial. Denials shall fairly meet the substance of the allegations denied. The respondent shall make denials as specific denials of designated allegations or paragraphs but if the respondent intends in good faith to deny only a part or a qualification of an allegation, the respondent shall specify so much of it as true and material and shall deny only the remainder.

**(2)** The respondent shall set forth affirmatively in the answer any matter constituting an affirmative defense.

**(3)** Allegations in a complaint are admitted when not denied in the answer.

**(4)** An answer to a complaint shall be filed within 20 days from the date of service of the complaint.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (4), Register, February, 1979, No. 278, eff. 3-1-79; am. (1), (3) and (4), Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.10 Administrative law judge.** **(1) DESIGNATION.** Disciplinary hearings shall be presided over by an administrative law judge employed by the department unless the disciplinary authority designates otherwise. The administrative law judge shall be an attorney in the department designated by the department general counsel, an employee borrowed from another agency pursuant to s. 20.901, Stats., or a person employed as a special project or limited term employee by the department, except that the administrative law judge may not be an employee in the division.

**(2) AUTHORITY.** An administrative law judge designated under this section to preside over any disciplinary proceeding has the authority described in s. 227.46 (1), Stats. Unless otherwise directed by a disciplinary authority pursuant to s. 227.46 (3), Stats., an administrative law judge presiding over a disciplinary proceeding shall prepare a proposed decision, including findings of fact, conclusions of law, order and opinion, in a form that may be adopted as the final decision in the case.

**(3) SERVICE OF PROPOSED DECISION.** Unless otherwise directed by a disciplinary authority, the proposed decision shall be served by the administrative law judge on all parties with a notice providing each party adversely affected by the proposed decision with an opportunity to file with the disciplinary authority objections and written argument with respect to the objections. A party adversely affected by a proposed decision shall have at least 10 days from the date of service of the proposed decision to file objections and argument.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; r. and recr. (1), Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; correction in (2) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats.; Register, May, 1988, No. 389; am. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.11 Prehearing conference.** In any matter pending before the disciplinary authority the complainant and the respondent, or their attorneys, may be directed by the disciplinary authority or administrative law judge to appear at a conference or to participate in a telephone conference to consider the simplification

tion of issues, the necessity or desirability of amendments to the pleadings; the admission of facts or documents which will avoid unnecessary proof and such other matters as may aid in the disposition of the matter.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 1992.

**RL 2.12 Settlements.** No stipulation or settlement agreement disposing of a complaint or informal complaint shall be effective or binding in any respect until reduced to writing, signed by the respondent and approved by the disciplinary authority.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-91.

**RL 2.13 Discovery.** The person prosecuting the complaint and the respondent may, prior to the date set for hearing, obtain discovery by use of the methods described in ch. 804, Stats., for the purposes set forth therein. Protective orders, including orders to terminate or limit examinations, orders compelling discovery, sanctions provided in s. 804.12, Stats. or other remedies as are appropriate for failure to comply with such orders may be made by the presiding officer.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 174, eff. 11-1-78.

**RL 2.14 Default.** If the respondent fails to answer as required by s. RL 2.09 or fails to appear at the hearing at the time fixed therefor, the respondent is in default and the disciplinary authority may make findings and enter an order on the basis of the complaint and other evidence. The disciplinary authority may, for good cause, relieve the respondent from the effect of such findings and permit the respondent to answer and defend at any time before the disciplinary authority enters an order or within a reasonable time thereafter.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.15 Conduct of hearing. (1) PRESIDING OFFICER.** The hearing shall be presided over by a member of the disciplinary authority or an administrative law judge designated pursuant to s. RL 2.10.

**(2) RECORD.** A stenographic, electronic or other record shall be made of all hearings in which the testimony of witnesses is offered as evidence.

**(3) EVIDENCE.** The complainant and the respondent shall have the right to appear in person or by counsel, to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses and to introduce evidence into the record.

**(4) BRIEFS.** The presiding officer may require the filing of briefs.

**(5) MOTIONS.** All motions, except those made at hearing, shall be in writing, filed with the presiding officer and a copy served upon the opposing party not later than 5 days before the time specified for hearing the motion.

**(6) ADJOURNMENTS.** The presiding officer may, for good cause, grant continuances, adjournments and extensions of time.

**(7) SUBPOENAS.** (a) Subpoenas for the attendance of any witness at a hearing in the proceeding may be issued in accordance with s. 885.01, Stats. Service shall be made in the manner provided in s. 805.07(5), Stats. A subpoena may command the person to whom it is directed to produce the books, papers, documents, or tangible things designated therein.

(b) A presiding officer may issue protective orders according to the provision the provisions of s. 805.07, Stats.

**(8) LOCATION OF HEARING.** All hearings shall be held at the offices of the department of regulation and licensing in Madison unless the presiding officer determines that the health or safety of a witness or of a party or an emergency requires that a hearing be held elsewhere.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (1) (5) and (6), cr. (8), Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.16 Witness fees and costs.** Witnesses subpoenaed at the request of the division or the disciplinary authority shall be entitled to compensation from the state for attendance and travel as provided in ch. 885, Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**RL 2.17 Transcription fees. (1)** The fee charged for a transcript of a proceeding under this chapter shall be computed by the person or reporting service preparing the transcript on the following basis:

(a) If the transcript is prepared by a reporting service, the fee charged for an original transcription and for copies shall be the amount identified in the state operational purchasing bulletin which identifies the reporting service and its fees.

(b) If a transcript is prepared by the department, the department shall charge a transcription fee of \$1.75 per page and a copying charge of \$.25 per page. If 2 or more persons request a transcript, the department shall charge each requester a copying fee of \$.25 per page, but may divide the transcript fee equitably among the requesters. If the department has prepared a written transcript for its own use prior to the time a request is made, the department shall assume the transcription fee, but shall charge a copying fee of \$.25 per page.

**(2)** A person who is without means and who requires a transcript for appeal or other reasonable purposes shall be furnished with a transcript without charge upon the filing of a petition of indigency signed under oath.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (1) Register, May, 1982, No. 317, eff. 6-1-82; r. and rec. Register, June, 1992, No. 435, eff. 7-1-92; am. (1) (b), Register, August, 1993, No. 452, eff. 9-1-93.

**RL 2.18 Assessment of costs. (1)** The proposed decision of an administrative law judge following hearing shall include a recommendation whether all or part of the costs of the proceeding shall be assessed against the respondent.

**(2)** If a respondent objects to the recommendation of an administrative law judge that costs be assessed, objections to the assessment of costs shall be filed, along with any other objections to the proposed decision, within the time established for filing of objections.

**(3)** The disciplinary authority's final decision and order imposing discipline in a disciplinary proceeding shall include a determination whether all or part of the costs of the proceeding shall be assessed against the respondent.

**(4)** When costs are imposed, the division and the administrative law judge shall file supporting affidavits showing costs incurred within 15 days of the date of the final decision and order. The respondent shall file any objection to the affidavits within 30 days of the date of the final decision and order. The disciplinary authority shall review any objections, along with the affidavits, and affirm or modify its order without a hearing.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1992, No. 438, eff. 7-1-92.

**Chapter RL 2**  
**APPENDIX I**  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**

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THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

To each person named above as a respondent:

You are hereby notified that disciplinary proceedings have been commenced against you before the ( #1 ). The Complaint, which is attached to this Notice, states the nature and basis of the proceeding. This proceeding may result in disciplinary action taken against you by the ( #2 ). This proceeding is a class 2 proceeding as defined in s. 227.01 (3) (b), Wis. Stats.

Within 20 days from the date of service of the complaint, you must respond with a written Answer to the allegations of the Complaint. You may have an attorney help or represent you. The Answer shall follow the general rules of pleading contained in s. RL 2.09. If you do not provide a proper Answer within 20 days, you will be found to be in default, and a default judgment may be entered against you on the basis of the complaint and other evidence and the ( #3 ) may take disciplinary action against you and impose the costs of the investigation, prosecution and decision of this matter upon you without further notice or hearing.

The original of your Answer should be filed with the Administrative Law Judge who has been designated to preside over this matter pursuant to s. RL 2.10, who is:

( #4 )  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Office of Board Legal Services  
P. O. Box 8935  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

You should also file a copy of your Answer with the complainant's attorney, who is:

( #5 )  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
P. O. Box 8935  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

A hearing on the matters contained in the Complaint will be held at the time and location indicated below:

**Hearing Date, Time and Location**

Date: ( #6 )  
Time: ( #7 )  
Location: Room( #8 )  
1400 East Washington Ave  
Madison, Wisconsin

or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. The questions to be determined at this hearing are whether the license previously issued to you should be revoked or suspended, whether such license should be limited, whether you should be reprimanded, whether, if authorized by law, a forfeiture should be imposed, or whether any other discipline should be imposed on you. You may be represented by an attorney at the hearing. The legal authority and procedures under which the hearing is to be held is set forth in s. 227.44, Stats., s. ( #9 ), Stats., ch. RL 2, and s. ( #10 ).

If you do not appear for hearing at the time and location set forth above, you will be found to be in default, and a default judgment may be entered against you on the basis of the complaint and other evidence and the ( #11 ) may take disciplinary action against you and impose the costs of the investigation, prosecution and decision of this matter upon you without further notice or hearing.

If you choose to be represented by an attorney in this proceeding, the attorney is requested to file a Notice of Appearance with the disciplinary authority and the Administrative Law Judge within 20 days of your receiving this Notice.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this \_\_\_\_\_ day of, \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Licensing Authority Member or Att  
( #12 )

**INSERTIONS**

1. Disciplinary authority
2. Disciplinary authority
3. Disciplinary authority
4. Administrative Law Judge
5. Complainant's attorney
6. Date of hearing
7. Time of hearing
8. Location of hearing
9. Legal authority (statute)
10. Legal authority (administrative code)
11. Disciplinary authority
12. Address and telephone number of person signing the complaint

## Chapter RL 3

## ADMINISTRATIVE INJUNCTIONS

RL 3.01	Authority.	RL 3.09	Administrative law judge
RL 3.02	Scope; kinds of proceedings.	RL3.10	Prehearing conference.
RL 3.03	Definitions.	RL3.11	Settlements.
RL 3.04	Pleadings to be captioned.	RL3.12	Discovery.
RL 3.05	Petition for administrative injunction.	RL 3.13	Default.
RL 3.06	Notice of hearing.	RL 3.14	Conduct of hearing.
RL 3.07	Service and filing of petition, notice of hearing and other papers	RL3.15	<b>Witness</b> fees and costs.
RL 3.08	Answer.	RL3.16	Transcription fees.

**RL 3.01 Authority.** The rules in ch. RL 3 are adopted pursuant to authority in ss. 440.03 (1) and 440.21, Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 5-1-93.

**RL 3.02 Scope: kinds of proceedings.** The rules in this chapter govern procedures in public hearings before the department to determine and make findings as to whether a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a credential required under chs. 440 to 459, Stats., and for issuance of an administrative injunction.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.03 Definitions.** In this chapter:

(1) "Administrative injunction" means a special order enjoining a person from the continuation of a practice or use of a title without a credential required under chs. 440 to 459, Stats.

(2) "Credential" means a license, permit, or certificate of certification or registration that is issued under chs. 440 to 459, Stats.

(3) "Department" means the department of regulation and licensing.

(4) "Division" means the division of enforcement in the department.

(5) "Petition" means a document which meets the requirements of s. RL 3.05.

(6) "Respondent" means the person against whom an administrative injunction proceeding has been commenced and who is named as respondent in a petition.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.04 Pleadings to be captioned.** All pleadings, notices, orders, and other papers filed in an administrative injunction proceeding shall be captioned: "BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING" and shall be entitled: "IN THE MATTER OF A PETITION FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE INJUNCTION INVOLVING \_\_\_\_\_, RESPONDENT."

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93

**RL 3.05 Petition for administrative injunction.** A petition for an administrative injunction shall allege that a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a credential required under chs. 440 to 459, Stats. A petition may be made on information and belief and shall contain:

(1) The name and address of the respondent and the name and address of the attorney in the division who is prosecuting the petition for the division;

(2) A short statement in plain language of the basis for the division's belief that the respondent has engaged in a practice or used a title without a credential required under chs. 440 to 459, Stats., and specifying the statute or rule alleged to have been violated;

(3) A request in essentially the following form: "Wherefore, the division demands that a public hearing be held and that the de-

partment issue a special order enjoining the person from the continuation of the practice or use of the title;" and,

(4) The signature of an attorney authorized by the division to sign the petition.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.06 Notice of hearing.** (1) A notice of hearing shall be sent to the respondent by the division at least 10 days prior to the hearing, except in the case of an emergency in which shorter notice may be given, but in no case may the notice be provided less than 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

(2) A notice of hearing to the respondent shall be essentially in the form shown in Appendix I and signed by an attorney in the division.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.07 Service and filing of petition, notice of hearing and other papers.** (1) The petition, notice of hearing, all orders and other papers required to be served on a respondent may be served by mailing a copy of the paper to the respondent at the last known address of the respondent or by any procedure described in s. 801.14 (2), Stats. Service by mail is complete upon mailing.

(2) Any paper required to be filed with the department may be mailed to the administrative law judge designated to preside in the matter and shall be deemed filed on receipt by the administrative law judge. An answer under s. RL 3.08, and motions under s. RL 3.14 may be filed and served by facsimile transmission. A document filed by facsimile transmission under this section shall also be mailed to the department. An answer or motion filed by facsimile transmission shall be deemed filed on the first business day after receipt by the department.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.08 Answer.** (1) An answer to a petition shall state in short and plain terms the defenses to each allegation asserted and shall admit or deny the allegations upon which the division relies. If the respondent is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation, the respondent shall so state and this has the effect of a denial. Denials shall fairly meet the substance of the allegations denied. The respondent shall make denials as specific denials of designated allegations or paragraphs but if the respondent intends in good faith to deny only a part or to provide a qualification of an allegation, the respondent shall specify so much of it as true and material and shall deny only the remainder.

(2) The respondent shall set forth affirmatively in the answer any matter constituting an affirmative defense.

(3) Allegations in a petition are admitted when not denied in the answer.

(4) An answer to a petition shall be filed within 20 days from the date of service of the petition.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.09 Administrative law judge. (1) DESIGNATION.** Administrative injunction proceedings shall be presided over by an administrative law judge. The administrative law judge shall be an attorney in the department designated by the department general counsel, an employee borrowed from another agency pursuant to s. 20.901, Stats., or a person employed as a special project or limited term employee by the department. The administrative law judge may not be an employee in the division.

**(2) AUTHORITY.** An administrative law judge designated under this section has the authority described in s. 227.46 (1), Stats. Unless otherwise directed under s. 227.46 (3), Stats., an administrative law judge shall prepare a proposed decision, including findings of fact, conclusions of law, order and opinion, in a form that may be adopted by the department as the final decision in the case.

**(3) SERVICE OF PROPOSED DECISION.** The proposed decision shall be served by the administrative law judge on all parties with a notice providing each party adversely affected by the proposed decision with an opportunity to file with the department objections and written argument with respect to the objections. A party adversely affected by a proposed decision shall have at least 10 days from the date of service of the proposed decision to file objections and argument.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.10 Prehearing conference.** In any matter pending before the department, the division and the respondent may be directed by the administrative law judge to appear at a conference or to participate in a telephone conference to consider the simplification of issues, the necessity or desirability of amendments to the pleading, the admission of facts or documents which will avoid unnecessary proof and such other matters as may aid in the disposition of the matter.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.11 Settlements.** No stipulation or settlement agreement disposing of a petition or informal petition shall be effective or binding in any respect until reduced to writing, signed by the respondent and approved by the department.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.12 Discovery.** The division and the respondent may, prior to the date set for hearing, obtain discovery by use of the methods described in ch. 804, Stats., for the purposes set forth therein. Protective orders, including orders to terminate or limit examinations, orders compelling discovery, sanctions provided in s. 804.12, Stats., or other remedies as are appropriate for failure to comply with such orders may be made by the administrative law judge.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.13 Default.** If the respondent fails to answer as required by s. RL 3.08 or fails to appear at the hearing at the time fixed therefor, the respondent is in default and the department may make findings and enter an order on the basis of the petition and other evidence. The department may, for good cause, relieve the respondent from the effect of the findings and permit the respondent to answer and defend at any time before the department enters an order or within a reasonable time thereafter.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.14 Conduct of hearing. (1) ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE.** The hearing shall be presided over by an administrative law judge designated pursuant to s. RL 3.09.

**(2) RECORD.** A stenographic, electronic or other record shall be made of all hearings in which the testimony of witnesses is offered as evidence.

**(3) EVIDENCE.** The division and the respondent shall have the right to appear in person or by counsel, to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses and to introduce evidence into the record.

**(4) BRIEFS.** The administrative law judge may require the filing of briefs.

**(5) MOTIONS. (a) How made.** An application to the administrative law judge for an order shall be by motion which, unless made during a hearing or prehearing conference, shall be in writing, state with particularity the grounds for the order, and set forth the relief or order sought.

**(b) Filing.** A motion shall be filed with the administrative law judge and a copy served upon the opposing party not later than 5 days before the time specified for hearing the motion.

**(c) Supporting papers.** Any briefs or other papers in support of a motion, including affidavits and documentary evidence, shall be filed with the motion.

**(6) ADJOURNMENTS.** The administrative law judge may, for good cause, grant continuances, adjournments and extensions of time.

**(7) SUBPOENAS. (a)** Subpoenas for the attendance of any witness at a hearing in the proceeding may be issued in accordance with s. 585.01, Stats. Service shall be made in the manner provided in s. S05.07 (5), Stats. A subpoena may command the person to whom it is directed to produce the books, papers, documents, or tangible things designated therein.

**(b)** An administrative law judge may issue protective orders according to the provisions of s. 805.07, Stats.

**(8) LOCATION OF HEARING.** All hearings shall be held at the offices of the department in Madison unless the administrative law judge determines that the health or safety of a witness or of a party or an emergency requires that a hearing be held elsewhere.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.15 Witness fees and costs.** Witnesses subpoenaed at the request of the division shall be entitled to compensation from the state for attendance and travel as provided in ch. 885, Stats.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 453, eff. 8-1-93.

**RL 3.16 Transcription fees. (1)** The fee charged for a transcript of a proceeding under this chapter shall be computed by the person or reporting service preparing the transcript on the following basis:

**(a)** If the transcript is prepared by a reporting service, the fee charged for an original transcription and for copies shall be the amount identified in the state operational purchasing bulletin which identifies the reporting service and its fees.

**Note:** The State Operational Purchasing Bulletin may be obtained from the Department of Administration, State Bureau of Procurement, 101 E. Wilson Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 7867, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7867.

**(b)** If a transcript is prepared by the department, the department shall charge a transcription fee of \$1.75 per page and a copying charge of \$.25 per page. If 2 or more persons request a transcript, the department shall charge each requester a copying fee of \$.25 per page, but may divide the transcript fee equitably among the requesters. If the department has prepared a written transcript for its own use prior to the time a request is made, the department shall assume the transcription fee, but shall charge a copying fee of \$.25 per page.

**(2)** A person who is without means and who requires a transcript for appeal or other reasonable purposes shall be furnished with a transcript without charge upon the filing of an affidavit showing that the person is indigent according to the standards adopted in rules of the state public defender under ch. 977, Stats.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

## Chapter RL 3

## APPENDIX I

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND  
LICENSING

IN THE MATTER OF A PETITION :  
FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE; NOTICE OF  
INJUNCTION INVOLVING : HEARING

(#1),

Respondent.

## NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: (#2)

You are hereby notified that a proceeding for an administrative injunction has been commenced against you by the Department of Regulation and Licensing. The petition attached to this Notice states the nature and basis of the proceeding. This proceeding may result in a special order against you under s. 440.21, Stats., enjoining you from the continuation of a practice or use of a title.

**A HEARING ON THE MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE PETITION WILL BE HELD AT:**

**Date: (#3) Time: (#4)**  
**Location: Room (#5),**  
**1400 East Washington Avenue**  
**Madison, Wisconsin**

**or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.**

The questions to be determined at this hearing are whether (#6).

Within 20 days from the date of service of the Notice, you must respond with a written Answer to the allegations of the Petition. You may have an attorney help or represent you. Your Answer must follow the rules of pleading in s. RL 3.08 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. File your Answer with the Administrative Law Judge for this matter who is:

(#7), Department of Regulation and Licensing, Office  
of Board Legal Services,  
P.O. Box 8935,  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Please file a copy of your answer with the division's attorney, who is:

(#8), Division of Enforcement,  
Department of Regulation and Licensing,  
P.O. Box 8935,  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

If you do not provide a proper Answer within 20 days or do not appear for the hearing, you will be found to be in default and a special order may be entered against you enjoining you from the continuation of a practice or use of a title. If a special order is issued as a result of this proceeding and thereafter you violate the special order, you may be required to forfeit not more than \$10,000 for each offense.

You may be represented by an attorney at the hearing. This proceeding is a class 2 proceeding as defined in s. 227.01 (3) (b), Stats. If you choose to be represented by an attorney in this proceeding, the attorney is requested to file a Notice of Appearance with the Administrative Law Judge and the division within 20 days after you receive this Notice.

The legal authority and procedures under which the hearing is to be held are set forth in ss. 227.21, 440.44, (#9), Stats., and ch. RL 3, Wis. Admin. Code.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 20\_\_.

(...#10...), Attorney

**INSERTIONS**

1. Respondent
2. Respondent with address
3. Date of hearing
4. Time of hearing
5. Place of hearing
6. Issues for hearing
7. Administrative Law Judge
8. Division of Enforcement attorney
9. Legal authority (statute)
10. Division of Enforcement attorney

## Chapter RL 4

DEPARTMENT APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND  
APPLICATION FEE POLICIES

RL 4.01 Authorization.  
 RL 4.02 Definitions.  
 RL 3.03 Time for review and determination of credential applications.

RL 4.04 Fees for examinations, reexaminations and proctoring examinations.  
 RL 4.05 Fee for test review.  
 RL 4.06 Refunds.

**RL 4.01 Authorization.** The following rules are adopted by the department of regulation and licensing pursuant to ss. 440.05, 440.06 and 440.07, Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; ~~am.~~ Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 4.02 Definitions. (1)** "Applicant" means a person who applies for a license, permit, certificate or registration granted by the department or a board.

**(2)** "Authority" means the department or the attached examining board or board having authority to grant the credential for which an application has been filed.

**(3)** "Board" means the board of nursing and any examining board attached to the department.

**(4)** "Department" means the department of regulation and licensing.

**(5)** "Examination" means the written and practical tests required of an applicant by the authority.

**(6)** "Service provider" means a party other than the department or board who provides examination services such as application processing, examination products or administration of examinations.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 273, eff. 11-1-78; ~~renum.~~ (1) to (4) to be (4), (3), (1), (5) and am. (5), cr. (2) and (6), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 4.03 Time for review and determination of credential applications. (1) TIME LIMITS.** An authority shall review and make a determination on an original application for a Credential within 60 business days after a completed application is received by the authority unless a different period for review and determination is specified by law.

**(2) COMPLETED APPLICATIONS.** An application is completed when all materials necessary to make a determination on the application and all materials requested by the authority have been received by the authority.

**(3) EFFECT OF DELAY.** A delay by an authority in making a determination on an application within the time period specified in this section shall be reported to the permit information center under s. 227.16, Stats. Delay by an authority in making a determination on an application within the time period specified in this section does not relieve any person from the obligation to secure approval from the authority nor affect in any way the authority's responsibility to interpret requirements for approval and to grant or deny approval.

**History:** Cr. Register, August, 1992, No. 440, eff. 9-1-92; ~~renum.~~ from RL 4.06 and am., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 4.04 Fees for examinations, reexaminations and proctoring examinations. (1) EXAMINATION FEE SCHEDULE.** A list of all current examination fees may be obtained at no charge from the Office of Examinations, Department of Regulation and Licensing, 1400 East Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708.

**(3) EXPLANATION OF PROCEDURES FOR SETTING EXAMINATION FEES.** (a) Fees for examinations shall be established under s. 440.05 (1) (b), Stats., at the department's best estimate of the

actual cost of preparing, administering and grading the examination or obtaining and administering an approved examination from a service provider.

(b) Examinations shall be obtained from a service provider through competitive procurement procedures described in ch. Adm 7.

(c) Fees for examination services provided by the department shall be established based on an estimate of the actual cost of the examination services. Computation of fees for examination services provided by the department shall include standard component amounts for contract administration services, test development services and written and practical test administration services.

(d) Examination fees shall be changed as needed to reflect changes in the actual costs to the department. Changes to fees shall be implemented according to par. (e).

(e) Examination fees shall be effective for examinations held 45 days or more after the date of publication of a notice in application form. Applicants who have submitted fees in an amount less than that in the most current application form shall pay the correct amount prior to administration of the examination. Overpayments shall be refunded by the department. Initial credential fees shall become effective on the date specified by law.

**(4) REEXAMINATION OF PREVIOUSLY LICENSED INDIVIDUALS.** Fees for examinations ordered as part of a disciplinary proceeding or late renewal under s. 440.08 (3) (b), Stats., are equal to the fee set for reexamination in the most recent examination application form, plus \$10 application processing.

**(5) PROCTORING EXAMINATIONS FOR OTHER STATES.** (a) Examinations administered by an authority of the state may be proctored for persons applying for credentials in another state if the person has been determined eligible in the other state and meets this state's application deadlines. Examinations not administered by an authority of the state may only be proctored for Wisconsin residents or licensees applying for credentials in another state.

(b) Department fees for proctoring examinations of persons who are applying for a credential in another state are equal to the cost of administering the examination to those persons, plus any additional cost charged to the department by the service provider.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; r. and recr. Register, May, 1986, No. 365, eff. 6-1-86; am. Register, December, 1986, No. 372, eff. 1-1-87; am. Register, September, 1987, No. 381, eff. 10-1-87; am. (3), Register, September, 1988, No. 393, eff. 10-1-88; am. (3), Register, September, 1990, No. 417, eff. 10-1-90; r. and recr. (1) to (3), cr. (4), ~~renum.~~ Figure and art. Register, April, 1992, No. 436, eff. 5-1-92; am. (4) Figure, cr. (5), Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93; r. and recr. Register, November, 1993, No. 455, eff. 12-1-93; r. (2), am. (3) (a), (b), (c), (e), (4), (5), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 4.05 Fee for test review.** The fee for supervised review of examination results by a failing applicant which is conducted by the department is \$28.

**(2)** The fee for review of examination results by a service provider is the fee established by the service provider.

**History:** Cr. Register, April, 1992, No. 436, eff. 5-1-92; am. Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.



**RL 4.06 Refunds.** (1) A refund of all but \$10 of the applicant's examination fee and initial credential fee submitted to the department shall be granted if any of the following occurs:

(a) An applicant is found to be unqualified for an examination administered by the authority.

(b) An applicant is found to be unqualified for a credential for which no examination is required.

(c) An applicant withdraws an application by written notice to the authority at least 10 days in advance of any scheduled examination.

(d) An applicant who fails to take an examination administered by the authority either provides written notice at least 10 days in advance of the examination date that the applicant is unable to take the examination, or if written notice was not provided, submits a written explanation satisfactory to the authority that the applicant's failure to take the examination resulted from extreme personal hardship.

(2) An applicant eligible for a refund may forfeit the refund and choose instead to take an examination administered by the authority within 18 months of the originally scheduled examination at no added fee.

(3) An applicant who misses an examination as a result of being called to active military duty shall receive a full refund. The applicant requesting the refund shall supply a copy of the call up orders or a letter from the commanding officer attesting to the call up.

(4) Applicants who pay fees to service providers other than the department are subject to the refund policy established by the service provider.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (2) (intro.), Register, May, 1986, No. 365, eff. 6-1-86; am. (1) and (2) (intro.), renum. (2) (c) and (3) to be (3) and (4), cr. (5), Register, September, 1987, No. 381, eff. 10-1-87; r. and recr. (1) and (4), Register, April, 1992, No. 436, eff. 5-1-92; r. (2), renum. (3) to be (2) to (4), Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93; renum. from RL 4.03 and am., Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

## Chapter RL 6

## SUMMARY SUSPENSIONS

RL 6.01	Authority and intent.
RL 6.02	Scope.
RL 6.03	Definitions.
KL 6.04	Petition for summary suspension.
RL 6.05	Notice of petition to respondent.
RL 6.06	Issuance of summary suspension order

RL 6.07	Contents of summary suspension order.
RL 6.08	Service of summary suspension order.
RL 6.09	Hearing to show cause.
RL 6.10	Commencement of disciplinary proceeding
RL 6.11	Delegation.

**RL 6.01 Authority and intent.** (1) This chapter is adopted pursuant to authority in ss. 227.11 (2) (a) and 440.03 (1), Stats., and interprets s. 227.51 (3), Stats.

(2) The intent of the department in creating this chapter is to specify uniform procedures for summary suspension of licenses, permits, certificates or registrations issued by the department or any board attached to the department in circumstances where the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.02 Scope.** This chapter governs procedures in all summary suspension proceedings against licensees before the department or any board attached to the department. To the extent that this chapter is not in conflict with s. 448.02 (4), Stats., the chapter shall also apply in proceedings brought under that section.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.03 Definitions.** In this chapter:

(1) “Board” means the bingo control board, real estate board or any examining board attached to the department.

(2) “Department” means the department of regulation and licensing.

(3) “Disciplinary proceeding” means a proceeding against one or more licensees in which a licensing authority may determine to revoke or suspend a license, to reprimand a licensee, or to limit a license.

(4) “License” means any license, permit, certificate, or registration granted by a board or the department or a right to renew a license, permit, certificate or registration granted by a board or the department.

(5) “Licensee” means a person, partnership, corporation or association holding any license.

(6) “Licensing authority” means the bingo control board, real estate board or any examining board attached to the department, the department for licenses granted by the department, or one acting under a board’s or the department’s delegation under s. RL 6.11.

(7) “Petitioner” means the division of enforcement in the department.

(8) “Respondent” means a licensee who is named as respondent in a petition for summary suspension.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.04 Petition for summary suspension.** (1) A petition for a summary suspension shall state the name and position of the person representing the petitioner, the address of the petitioner, the name and licensure status of the respondent, and an assertion of the facts establishing that the respondent has engaged in or is likely to engage in conduct such that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency Suspension of the respondent’s license.

(2) A petition for a summary suspension order shall be signed upon oath by the person representing the petitioner and may be made on information and belief.

(3) The petition shall be presented to the appropriate licensing authority.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.05 Notice of petition to respondent.** Prior to the presenting of the petition, the petitioner shall give notice to the respondent or respondent’s attorney of the time and place when the petition will be presented to the licensing authority. Notice may be given by mailing a copy of the petition and notice to the last-known address of the respondent as indicated in the records of the licensing authority as provided in s. 440.11 (2), Stats. as created by 1987 Wis. Act 27. Notice by mail is complete upon mailing. Notice may also be given by any procedure described in s. 801.11, Stats.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.06 Issuance of summary suspension order.** (1) If the licensing authority finds that notice has been given under s. RL 6.05 and finds probable cause to believe that the respondent has engaged in or is likely to engage in conduct such that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency suspension of the respondent’s license, the licensing authority may issue an order for summary suspension. The order may be issued at any time prior to or subsequent to the commencement of a disciplinary proceeding under s. RL 2.04.

(2) The petitioner may establish probable cause under sub. (1) by affidavit or other evidence.

(3) The summary suspension order shall be effective upon service under s. RL 6.08, or upon actual notice of the summary suspension order to the respondent or respondent’s attorney, whichever is sooner, and continue through the effective date of the final decision and order made in the disciplinary proceeding against the respondent, unless the license is restored under s. RL 6.09 prior to a formal disciplinary hearing.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.07 Contents of summary suspension order.** The summary suspension order shall include the following:

(1) A statement that the suspension order is in effect and continues until the effective date of a final order and decision in the disciplinary proceeding against the respondent, unless otherwise ordered by the licensing authority;

(2) Notification of the respondent’s right to request a hearing to show cause why the summary suspension order should not be continued;

(3) The name and address of the licensing authority with whom a request for hearing should be filed;

(4) Notification that the hearing to show cause shall be scheduled for hearing on a date within 20 days of receipt by the licensing authority of respondent’s request for hearing, unless a later time is requested by or agreed to by the respondent;

(5) The identification of all witnesses providing evidence at the time the petition for summary suspension was presented and identification of the evidence used as a basis for the decision to issue the summary suspension order;

(6) The manner in which the respondent or the respondent's attorney was notified of the petition for summary suspension; and

(7) A finding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency suspension of the respondent's license.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.08 Service of summary suspension order.** An order of summary suspension shall be served upon the respondent in the manner provided in s. 801.11, Stats., for service of summons.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.09 Hearing to show cause.** (1) The respondent shall have the right to request a hearing to show cause why the summary suspension order should not be continued until the effective date of the final decision and order in the disciplinary action against the respondent.

(2) The request for hearing to show cause shall be filed with the licensing authority which issued the summary suspension order. The hearing shall be scheduled and heard promptly by the licensing authority but no later than 20 days after the filing of the request for hearing with the licensing authority, unless a later time is requested by or agreed to by the licensee.

(3) At the hearing to show cause the petitioner and the respondent may testify, call, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and offer other evidence.

(4) At the hearing to show cause the petitioner has the burden to show by a preponderance of the evidence why the summary suspension order should be continued.

(5) At the conclusion of the hearing to show cause the licensing authority shall make findings and an order. If it is determined that the summary suspension order should not be continued, the suspended license shall be immediately restored.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.10 Commencement of disciplinary proceeding.** (1) A notice of hearing commencing a disciplinary proceeding under s. RL 2.06 against the respondent shall be issued no later than 10 days following the issuance of the summary suspension order or the suspension shall lapse on the tenth day following issuance of the summary suspension order. The formal disciplinary proceeding shall be determined promptly.

(2) If at any time the disciplinary proceeding is not advancing with reasonable promptness, the respondent may make a motion to the hearing officer or may directly petition the appropriate board, or the department, for an order granting relief.

(3) If it is found that the disciplinary proceeding is not advancing with reasonable promptness, and the delay is not as a result of the conduct of respondent or respondent's counsel, a remedy, as would be just, shall be granted including:

(a) An order immediately terminating the summary suspension; or

(b) An order compelling that the disciplinary proceeding be held and determined by a specific date.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**RL 6.11 Delegation.** (1) A board may by a two-thirds vote:

(a) Designate under s. 227.46 (1), Stats., a member of the board or an employee of the department to rule on a petition for summary suspension, to issue a summary suspension order, and to preside over and rule in a hearing provided for in s. RL 6.09; or

(b) Appoint a panel of no less than two-thirds of the membership of the board to rule on a petition for summary suspension, to issue a summary suspension order, and to preside over and rule in a hearing provided for in s. RL 6.09.

(2) In matters in which the department is the licensing authority, the department secretary or the secretary's designee shall rule on a petition for summary suspension, issue a summary suspension order, and preside over and rule in a hearing provided for in s. RL 6.09.

(3) Except as provided in s. 227.46 (3), Stats., a delegation of authority under subs. (1) and (2) may be continuing.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

## Chapter RL 7

## IMPAIRED PROFESSIONALS PROCEDURE

RL 7.01	Authority and intent.	RL 7.07	Intradepartmental referral.
RL 7.02	Definitions.	RL 7.08	Records.
RL 7.03	Referral to and eligibility for the procedure.	RL 7.09	Report.
RL 7.04	Requirements for participation.	RL 7.10	Applicability of procedures to direct licensing by the department.
RL 7.05	Agreement for participation.	RL 7.11	Approval of drug testing programs.
RL 7.06	Standards for approval of treatment facilities or individual therapists.		

**RL 7.01 Authority and intent. (1)** The rules in this chapter are adopted pursuant to authority in ss. 15.08 (5) (b), 51.30, 146.82, 227.11 and 440.03, Stats.

**(2)** The intent of the department in adopting rules in this chapter is to protect the public from credential holders who are impaired by reason of their abuse of alcohol or other drugs. This goal will be advanced by providing an option to the formal disciplinary process for qualified credential holders committed to their own recovery. This procedure is intended to apply when allegations are made that a credential holder has practiced a profession while impaired by alcohol or other drugs or when a credential holder contacts the department and requests to participate in the procedure. It is not intended to apply in situations where allegations exist that a credential holder has committed violations of law, other than practice while impaired by alcohol or other drugs, which are substantial. The procedure may then be utilized in selected cases to promote early identification of chemically dependent professionals and encourage their rehabilitation. Finally, the department's procedure does not seek to diminish the prosecution of serious violations but rather it attempts to address the problem of alcohol and other drug abuse within the enforcement jurisdiction of the department.

**(3)** In administering this program, the department intends to encourage board members to share professional expertise so that all boards in the department have access to a range of professional expertise to handle problems involving impaired professionals.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. (2), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 7.02 Definitions.** In this chapter:

**(1)** "Board" means any examining board or affiliated credentialing board attached to the department and the real estate board.

**(2)** "Board liaison" means the board member designated by the board as responsible for approving credential holders for the impaired professionals procedure under s. RL 7.03, for monitoring compliance with the requirements for participation under s. RL 7.04, and for performing other responsibilities delegated to the board liaison under these rules.

**(2a)** "Coordinator" means a department employee who coordinates the impaired professionals procedure.

**(2b)** "Credential holder" means a person holding any license, permit, certificate or registration granted by the department or any board.

**(3)** "Department" means the department of regulation and licensing.

**(4)** "Division" means the division of enforcement in the department.

**(5)** "Informal complaint" means any written information submitted by any person to the division, department or any board which requests that a disciplinary proceeding be commenced against a credential holder or which alleges facts, which if true, warrant discipline. "Informal complaint" includes requests for disciplinary proceedings under s. 440.20, Stats.

**(6)** "Medical review officer" means a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy who is a licensed physician and who has knowledge of substance abuse disorders and has appropriate medical training to interpret and evaluate an individual's confirmed positive test result together with an individual's medical history and any other relevant biomedical information.

**(7)** "Procedure" means the impaired professionals procedure.

**(8)** "Program" means any entity approved by the department to provide the full scope of drug testing services for the department.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. (1), (2), (5), cr. (2a), (2b), r. (6), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96; cr. (6) and (8), Register, January, 2001, No. 541, eff. 2-1-01.

**RL 7.03 Referral to and eligibility for the procedure.**

**(1)** All informal complaints involving allegations of impairment due to alcohol or chemical dependency shall be screened and investigated pursuant to s. RL 2.035. After investigation, informal complaints involving impairment may be referred to the procedure and considered for eligibility as an alternative to formal disciplinary proceedings under ch. RL 2.

**(2)** A credential holder who has been referred to the procedure and considered for eligibility shall be provided with an application for participation, a summary of the investigative results in the form of a draft statement of conduct to be used as a basis for the statement of conduct under s. RL 7.05 (1) (a), and a written explanation of the credential holder's options for resolution of the matter through participation in the procedure or through the formal disciplinary process pursuant to ch. RL 2.

**(3)** Eligibility for the procedure shall be determined by the board liaison and coordinator who shall review all relevant materials including investigative results and the credential holder's application for participation. Eligibility shall be determined upon criteria developed by each credentialing authority which shall include at a minimum the credential holder's past or pending criminal, disciplinary or malpractice record, the circumstances of the credential holder's referral to the department, the seriousness of other alleged violations and the credential holder's prognosis for recovery. The decision on eligibility shall be consistent with the purposes of these procedures as described in s. RL 7.01 (2). The board liaison shall have responsibility to make the determination of eligibility for the procedure.

**(4)** Prior to the signing of an agreement for participation the credential holder shall obtain a comprehensive assessment for chemical dependency from a treatment facility or individual therapist approved under s. RL 7.06. The credential holder shall arrange for the treatment facility or individual therapist to file a copy of its assessment with the board liaison or coordinator. The assessment shall include a statement describing the credential holder's prognosis for recovery. The board liaison and the credential holder may agree to waive this requirement.

**(5)** If a credential holder is determined to be ineligible for the procedure, the credential holder shall be referred to the division for prosecution.

(6) A credential holder determined to be ineligible for the procedure by the board liaison or the department may, within 10 days of notice of the determination, request the credentialing authority to review the adverse determination.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. (2) to (6), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 7.04 Requirements for participation.** (1) A credential holder who participates in the procedure shall:

- (a) Sign an agreement for participation under s. RL 7.05.
- (b) Remain free of alcohol, controlled substances, and prescription drugs, unless prescribed for a valid medical purpose.
- (c) Timely enroll and participate in a program for the treatment of chemical dependency conducted by a facility or individual therapist approved pursuant to s. RL 7.06.
- (d) Comply with any treatment recommendations and work restrictions or conditions deemed necessary by the board liaison or department.
- (e) Submit random monitored blood or urine samples for the purpose of screening for alcohol or controlled substances provided by a drug testing program approved by the department under s. RL 7.11, as required.
- (f) Execute releases valid under state and federal law in the form shown in Appendix I to allow access to the credential holder's counseling, treatment and monitoring records.
- (g) Have the credential holder's supervising therapist and work supervisors file quarterly reports with the coordinator.
- (h) Notify the coordinator of any changes in the credential holder's employer within 5 days.
- (i) File quarterly reports documenting the credential holder's attendance at meetings of self-help groups such as alcoholics anonymous or narcotics anonymous.

(2) If the board liaison or department determines, based on consultation with the person authorized to provide treatment to the credential holder or monitor the credential holder's enrollment or participation in the procedure, or monitor any drug screening requirements or restrictions on employment under sub. (1), that a credential holder participating in the procedure has failed to meet any of the requirements set under sub. (1), the board liaison may request that the board dismiss the credential holder from the procedure. The board shall review the complete record in making this determination. If the credential holder is dismissed the matter shall be referred to the division.

(3) If a credential holder violates the agreement and the board does not dismiss and refer the credential holder to the division, then a new admission under s. RL 7.05 (1) (a) shall be obtained for violations which are substantiated.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96; am. (1) (e), Register, January, 2001, No. 541, eff. 2-1-01.

**RL 7.05 Agreement for participation.** (1) The agreement for participation in the procedure shall at a minimum include:

- (a) A statement describing conduct the credential holder agrees occurred relating to participation in the procedure and an agreement that the statement may be used as evidence in any disciplinary proceeding under ch. RL 2.
- (b) An acknowledgement by the credential holder of the need for treatment for chemical dependency;
- (c) An agreement to participate at the credential holder's expense in an approved treatment regimen.
- (d) An agreement to submit to random monitored drug screens provided by a drug testing program approved by the department under s. RL 7.11 at the credential holder's expense, if deemed necessary by the board liaison.

(e) An agreement to submit to practice restrictions at any time during the treatment regimen as deemed necessary by the board liaison.

(f) An agreement to furnish the coordinator with signed consents for release of information from treatment providers and employers authorizing the release of information to the coordinator and board liaison for the purpose of monitoring the credential holder's participation in the procedure.

(g) An agreement to authorize the board liaison or coordinator to release information described in pars. (a), (c) and (e), the fact that a credential holder has been dismissed under s. RL 7.07 (3) (a) or violated terms of the agreement in s. RL 7.04 (1) (b) to (e) and (h) concerning the credential holder's participation in the procedure to the employer, therapist or treatment facility identified by the credential holder and an agreement to authorize the coordinator to release the results of random monitored drug screens under par. (d) to the therapist identified by the credential holder.

(h) An agreement to participate in the procedure for a period of time as established by the board.

(2) The board liaison may include additional requirements for an individual credential holder, if the circumstances of the informal complaint or the credential holder's condition warrant additional safeguards.

(3) The board or board liaison may include a promise of confidentiality that all or certain records shall remain closed and not available for public inspection and copying.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. (1) (a) to (g) and (2), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96; am. (1) (d), Register, January, 2001, No. 541, eff. 2-1-01.

**RL 7.06 Standards for approval of treatment facilities or individual therapists.** (1) The board or board liaison shall approve a treatment facility designated by a credential holder for the purpose of participation in the procedure if:

- (a) The facility is certified by appropriate national or state certification agencies.
- (b) The treatment program focus at the facility is on the individual with drug and alcohol abuse problems.
- (c) Facility treatment plans and protocols are available to the board liaison and coordinator.
- (d) The facility, through the credential holder's supervising therapist, agrees to file reports as required, including quarterly progress reports and immediate reports if a credential holder withdraws from therapy, relapses, or is believed to be in an unsafe condition to practice.

(2) As an alternative to participation by means of a treatment facility, a credential holder may designate an individual therapist for the purpose of participation in the procedure. The board liaison shall approve an individual therapist who:

- (a) Has credentials and experience determined by the board liaison to be in the credential holder's area of need.
- (b) Agrees to perform an appropriate assessment of the credential holder's therapeutic needs and to establish and implement a comprehensive treatment regimen for the credential holder.
- (c) Forwards copies of the therapist's treatment regimen and office protocols to the coordinator.
- (d) Agrees to file reports as required to the coordinator, including quarterly progress reports and immediate reports if a credential holder withdraws from therapy, relapses, or is believed to be in an unsafe condition to practice.

(3) If a board liaison does not approve a treatment facility or therapist as requested by the credential holder, the credential holder may, within 10 days of notice of the determination, request the board to review the board liaison's adverse determination.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96; r. (1) (d) and (2) (d), renum. (1) (e) and (2) (e) to be (1) (d) and (2) (d) and (2), Register, January, 2001, No. 541, eff. 2-1-01.

**RL 7.07 Intradepartmental referral.** (1) A credential holder who contacts the department and requests to participate in the procedure shall be referred to the board liaison and the coordinator for determination of acceptance into the procedure.

(2) The division may refer individuals named in informal complaints to the board liaison for acceptance into the procedure.

(3) The board liaison may refer cases involving the following to the division for investigation or prosecution:

(a) Credential holders participating in the procedure who are dismissed for failure to meet the requirements of their rehabilitation program or who otherwise engage in behavior which should be referred to prevent harm to the public.

(b) Credential holders who apply and who are determined to be ineligible for the procedure where the board liaison is in possession of information indicating a violation of law.

(c) Credential holders who do not complete an agreement for participation where the board liaison is in possession of information indicating a violation of law.

(d) Credential holders initially referred by the division to the board liaison who fail to complete an agreement for participation.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. (1), (3) (a) to (d), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 7.08 Records.** (1) **CUSTODIAN.** All records relating to the procedure including applications for participation, agreements for participation and reports of participation shall be maintained in the custody of the department secretary or the secretary's designee.

(2) **AVAILABILITY OF PROCEDURE RECORDS FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.** Any requests to inspect procedure records shall be made to the custodian. The custodian shall evaluate each request on a case by case basis using the applicable law relating to open records and giving appropriate weight to relevant factors in order to determine whether public interest in nondisclosure outweighs the public interest in access to the records, including the reputational interests of the credential holder, the importance of confidentiality to the functional integrity of the procedure, the existence of any pledge of confidentiality, statutory or common law rules which accord a status of confidentiality to the records and the likelihood that release of the records will impede an investigation.

(3) **TREATMENT RECORDS.** Treatment records concerning individuals who are receiving or who at any time have received services for mental illness, developmental disabilities, alcoholism, or drug dependence which are maintained by the department, by county departments under s. 51.42 or 51.437, Stats., and their staffs and by treatment facilities are confidential under s. 51.30, Stats., and shall not be made available for public inspection.

(4) **PATIENT HEALTH CARE RECORDS.** Patient health care records are confidential under s. 146.82, Stats., and shall not be made available to the public without the informed consent of the patient or of a person authorized by the patient or as provided under s. 146.82 (2), Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. (2), Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 7.09 Report.** The board liaison or coordinator shall report on the procedure to the board at least twice a year and if requested to do so by a board.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 7.10 Applicability of procedures to direct licensing by the department.** This procedure may be used by the department in resolving complaints against persons licensed directly by the department if the department has authority to discipline the credential holder. In such cases, the department secretary shall have the authority and responsibility of the "board" as the

term is used in the procedure and shall designate an employee to perform the responsibilities of the "board liaison."

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; am. Register, July, 1996, No. 487, eff. 8-1-96.

**RL 7.11 Approval of drug testing programs.** The department shall approve drug testing programs for use by credential holders who participate in drug and alcohol monitoring programs pursuant to agreements between the department or boards and credential holders, or pursuant to disciplinary orders. To be approved as a drug testing program for the department, programs shall satisfactorily meet all of the following standards in the areas of program administration, collection site administration, laboratory requirements and reporting requirements:

(1) Program administration requirements are:

(a) The program shall enroll participants by setting up an account, establishing a method of payment and supplying pre-printed chain-of-custody forms.

(b) The program shall provide the participant with the address and phone number of the nearest collection sites and shall assist in locating a qualified collection site when traveling outside the local area.

(c) Random selection of days when participants shall provide specimens shall begin upon enrollment and the program shall notify designated department staff that selection has begun.

(d) The program shall maintain a nationwide 800 number or an internet website that is operational 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to inform participants of when to provide specimens.

(e) The program shall maintain and make available to the department through an internet website data that are updated on a daily basis verifying the date and time each participant was notified after random selection to provide a specimen, the date, time and location each specimen was collected, the results of drug screen and whether or not the participant complied as directed.

(f) The program shall maintain internal and external quality of test results and other services.

(g) The program shall maintain the confidentiality of participants in accordance with s. 146.82, Stats.

(h) The program shall inform participants of the total cost for each drug screen including the cost for program administration, collection, transportation, analysis, reporting and confirmation. Total cost shall not include the services of a medical review officer.

(i) The program shall immediately report to the department if the program, laboratory or any collection site fails to comply with this section. The department may remove a program from the approved list if the program fails to comply with this section.

(j) The program shall make available to the department experts to support a test result for 5 years after the test results are released to the department.

(k) The program shall not sell or otherwise transfer or transmit names and other personal identification information of the participants to other persons or entities without permission from the department. The program shall not solicit from participants presently or formerly in the monitoring program or otherwise contact participants except for purposes consistent with administering the program and only with permission from the department.

(L) The program and laboratory shall not disclose to the participant or the public the specific drugs tested.

(2) Collection site administration requirements are:

(a) The program shall locate, train and monitor collection sites for compliance with the U.S. department of transportation collection protocol under 49 CFR 40.

(b) The program shall require delivery of specimens to the laboratory within 24 hours of collection.

(3) Laboratory requirements are:

(a) The program shall utilize a laboratory that is certified by the U.S. department of health and human services, substance abuse and mental health services administration under 49 CFR 40. If the laboratory has had adverse or corrective action, the department shall evaluate the laboratory's compliance on a case by case basis.

(b) The program shall utilize a laboratory capable of analyzing specimens for drugs specified by the department.

(c) Testing of specimens shall be initiated within 48 hours of pickup by courier.

(dj) All positive drug screens shall be confirmed utilizing gas chromatography in combination with mass spectrometry, mass spectrometry, or another approved method.

(e) The laboratory shall allow department personnel to tour facilities where participant specimens are tested.

**(4)** The requirements for reporting of results are:

(a) The program shall provide results of each specimen to designated department personnel within 24 hours of processing.

(b) The program shall inform designated department personnel of confirmed positive test results on the same day the test results are confirmed or by the next business day if the results are confirmed after hours, on the weekend or on a state or federal holiday.

(c) The program shall fax, e-mail or electronically transmit laboratory copies of drug test results at the request of the department.

(d) The program shall provide a medical review officer upon request and at the expense of the participant, to review disputed positive test results.

(e) The program shall provide chain-of-custody transfer of disputed specimens to an approved independent laboratory for retesting at the request of the participant or the department.

**History: Cr. Register, January, 2001, No. 541, eff. 2-1-01.**

## Chapter RL 7

## APPENDIX I

## CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I, ( #1 ), hereby authorize ( if2 ) to provide the board liaison for the Department of Regulation and Licensing Impaired Professionals Procedure, P.O. Box 5935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708, or persons designated by the board liaison who are directly involved in administration of the procedure, with ( 63 ). I further authorize ( #4 ) to discuss with the board liaison or the board liaison's designee any matter relating to the records provided and to allow the board liaison or the board liaison's designee to examine and copy any records or information relating to me.

I hereby also authorize the board liaison or the board liaison's designee to provide ( #5 ) with copies of any information provided to the board liaison pursuant to this consent for release of information authorizing the release of information to the board liaison from those persons and institutions.

In the event of my dismissal from the Impaired Professionals Procedure, I hereby also authorize the board liaison or the board liaison's designee to provide the Division of Enforcement with the results of any investigation conducted in connection with my application to participate in the Impaired Professionals Procedure and with any documentation, including patient health care records, evidencing my failure to meet participation requirements.

This consent for release of information is being made for the purposes of monitoring my participation in the Impaired Professionals Procedure, and any subsequent procedures before the Wisconsin ( #6 ); and for the further purpose of permitting exchange of information between the board liaison or the board liaison's designee and persons or institutions involved in my participation in the Impaired Professionals Procedure where such exchange is necessary in the furtherance of my treatment or to provide information to the Division of Enforcement in the event of my dismissal from the Impaired Professionals Procedure.

Unless revoked earlier, this consent is effective until ( #7 ). I understand that I may revoke this consent at any time and that information obtained as a result of this consent may be used after

the above expiration date or revocation. A reproduced copy of this consent form shall be as valid as the original.

I understand that should I fail to execute this consent for release of information, I shall be ineligible to participate in the Impaired Professionals Procedure. I also understand that should I revoke this consent prior to completion of my participation in the Impaired Professionals Procedure, I will be subject to dismissal from the procedure.

I understand that the recipient of information provided pursuant to this Consent for Release of Information is not authorized to make any further disclosure of the information without my specific written consent; or except as otherwise permitted or required by law.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_.

Signature of IPP Participant Participant's Date of Birth

## INSERTIONS

1. Participant
2. Persons and institutions provided with releases for provision of information to the department
3. Examples: ~~Drug~~ and alcohol treatment records  
Mental health/psychiatric treatment records  
Personnel records: work records  
Results of blood or urine screens
4. Persons or institutions given authorization
5. Persons or institutions given authorization in the first paragraph
6. Name of board
7. Date to which consent is effective



## Chapter RL 8

## ADMINISTRATIVE WARNINGS

RL 8.01	Authority and scope.
RL 8.02	Definitions.
RL 8.03	Findings before issuance of an administrative warning
RL 8.04	Issuance of an administrative warning.

RL 8.05	Request for a review of an administrative warning
RL 8.06	Procedures
RL 8.07	Transcription fees

**RL 8.01 Authority and scope.** Rules in this chapter are adopted under the authority of s. 440.205, Stats., to establish uniform procedures for the issuance and use of administrative warnings.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1999, No. 517, eff. 2-1-99.

**RL 8.02 Definitions.** As used in s. 440.205, Stats., and in this chapter:

(1) "Credential" means a license, permit, or certificate of certification or registration that is issued under chs. 440 to 480, Stats.

(2) "Department" means the department of regulation and licensing.

(3) "Disciplinary authority" means the department or an attached examining board, affiliated credentialing board or board having authority to reprimand a credential holder.

(4) "Division" means the division of enforcement in the department.

(5) "First occurrence" means any of the following:

(a) The credential holder has never been charged as a respondent in a formal complaint filed under ch. RL 2.

(b) Other than the matter pending before the disciplinary authority, no informal complaint alleging the same or similar misconduct has been filed with the department against the credential holder.

(c) The credential holder has not been disciplined by a disciplinary authority in Wisconsin or another jurisdiction.

(6) "Minor violation" means all of the following:

(a) No significant harm was caused by misconduct of the credential holder.

(b) Continued practice by the credential holder presents no immediate danger to the public.

(c) If prosecuted, the likely result of prosecution would be a reprimand or a limitation requiring the credential holder to obtain additional education.

(d) The complaint does not warrant use of prosecutorial resources.

(e) The credential holder has not previously received an administrative warning.

(7) "Misconduct" means a violation of a statute or rule related to the profession or other conduct for which discipline may be imposed under chs. 440 to 480, Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1999, No. 517, eff. 2-1-99.

**RL 8.03 Findings before issuance of an administrative warning.** Before issuance of an administrative warning, a disciplinary authority shall make all of the following findings:

(1) That there is specific evidence of misconduct by the credential holder.

(2) That the misconduct is a first occurrence for the credential holder.

(3) That the misconduct is a minor violation of a statute or rule related to the profession or other conduct for discipline may be imposed.

(4) That issuance of an administrative warning will adequately protect the public.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1999, No. 517, eff. 2-1-99.

**RL 8.04 Issuance of an administrative warning.**

(1) An administrative warning shall be substantially in the form shown in Appendix I.

(2) An administrative warning may be issued to a credential holder by mailing the administrative warning to the last address provided by the credential holder to the department. Service by mail is complete on the date of mailing.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1999, No. 517, eff. 2-1-99.

**RL 8.05 Request for a review of an administrative warning.** A credential holder who has been issued an administrative warning may request the disciplinary authority to review the issuance of the administrative warning by filing a written request with the disciplinary authority within 20 days after the mailing of the administrative warning. The request shall be in writing and set forth:

(1) The credential holder's name and address.

(2) The reason for requesting a review.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1999, No. 517, eff. 2-1-99.

**RL 8.06 Procedures.** The procedures for an administrative warning review are:

(1) Within 45 calendar days of receipt of a request for review, the disciplinary authority shall notify the credential holder of the time and place of the review.

(2) No discovery is permitted. A credential holder may inspect records under s. 19.35, Stats., the public records law.

(3) The disciplinary authority or its designee shall preside over the review. The review shall be recorded by audio tape unless otherwise specified by the disciplinary authority.

(4) The disciplinary authority shall provide the credential holder with an opportunity to make a personal appearance before the disciplinary authority and present a statement. The disciplinary authority may request the division to appear and present a statement on issues raised by the credential holder. The disciplinary authority may establish a time limit for making a presentation. Unless otherwise determined by the disciplinary authority, the time for making a personal appearance shall be 20 minutes.

(5) If the credential holder fails to appear for a review, or withdraws the request for a review, the disciplinary authority may note the failure to appear in the minutes and leave the administrative warning in effect without further action.

**History:** Cr. Register, January, 1999, No. 517, eff. 2-1-99.

**RL 8.07 Transcription fees.** (1) The fee charged for a transcript of a review under this chapter shall be computed by the person or reporting service preparing the transcript on the following basis:

(a) If the transcript is prepared by a reporting service, the fee charged for an original transcription and for copies shall be the amount identified in the state operational purchasing bulletin which identifies the reporting service and its fees.

(b) If a transcript is prepared by the department, the department shall charge a transcription fee of \$1.75 per page and a copying charge of \$.25 per page. If 2 or more persons request a transcript, the department shall charge each requester a copying fee of \$.25 per page, but may divide the transcript fee equitably among the requesters. If the department has prepared a written transcript for its own use prior to the time a request is made, the department shall

assume the transcription fee, but shall charge a copying fee of \$.25 per page.

**(2)** A person who is without means and who requires a transcript for appeal or other reasonable purposes shall be furnished with a transcript without charge upon the filing of a petition of indigence signed under oath.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1999, No. 517, eff. 2-1-99.

**Chapter RL 8**

**APPENDIX I**

**DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING**

**[DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY]**

**ADMINISTRATIVE WARNING**

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This administrative warning is issued by the {disciplinary authority} to (credential holder) pursuant to s. 440.205, Stats. The {disciplinary authority} makes the following findings:

- 1) That there is evidence of professional misconduct by {credential holder}. to wit:
- 2) That this misconduct is a first occurrence for (credential holder).
- 3) That this misconduct is a minor violation of (statute or rule).
- 4) That issuance of this administrative warning will adequately protect the public and no further action is warranted.

Therefore, the (disciplinary authority) issues this administrative warning and hereby puts the {credential holder} on notice that any subsequent violation may result in disciplinary action. The investigation of this matter is hereby closed.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of authorized representative  
For {Disciplinary Authority}

**Right to Review**

**You may obtain a review of this administrative warning by filing a written request with the {disciplinary authority} within 20 days of mailing of this warning. The review will offer the credential holder an opportunity to make a personal appearance before the (disciplinary authority).**

*The record that this administrative warning ~~was~~ issued is a public record.*

*The content of this warning is private and confidential.*

## Chapter RL 9

**DENIAL OF RENEWAL APPLICATION BECAUSE APPLICANT IS LIABLE FOR DELINQUENT TAXES**

RL 9.01 Authority.  
 RL 9.02 Scope; nature of proceedings.  
 RL 9.03 Definitions.

RL 9.04 Procedures for requesting the department of revenue to certify whether an applicant for renewal is liable for delinquent taxes.  
 RL 9.05 Denial of renewal.

**RL 9.01 Authority.** The rules in ch. RL 9 are adopted under the authority in s. 440.03, Stats.

**History:** Emerg. cr. eff. 11-14-96; Cr. Register, August, 1996, No. 488, eff. 9-1-96.

**RL 9.02 Scope; nature of proceedings.** The rules in this chapter govern the procedures for requesting the Wisconsin department of revenue to certify whether an applicant is liable for delinquent taxes owed to this state under s. 440.08 (4) (b), Stats., as created by 1995 Wis. Act 27 and amended by 1995 Wis. Act 233, to review denial of an application for renewal because the applicant is liable for delinquent taxes.

**History:** Emerg. cr. eff. 11-14-96; Cr. Register, August, 1996, No. 488, eff. 9-1-96.

**RL 9.03 Definitions.** In this chapter:

(1) "Applicant" means a person who applies for renewal of a credential. "Person" in this subsection includes a business entity.

(2) "Credential" has the meaning in s. 440.01 (2) (a), Stats.

(3) "Department" means the department of regulation and licensing.

(4) "Liable for any delinquent taxes owed to this state" has the meaning set forth in s. 73.0301 (1) (c), Stats.

**History:** Emerg. cr. eff. 11-14-96; Cr. Register, August, 1996, No. 488, eff. 9-1-96; correction in (4) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats.

**RL 9.04 Procedures for requesting the department of revenue to certify whether an applicant for renewal is liable for delinquent taxes.** (1) **RENEWAL APPLICATION FORM.** If the department receives a renewal application that does not include the information required by s. 440.08 (2g) (b), Stats., the application shall be denied unless the applicant provides the missing information within 20 days after the department first received the application.

**Note:** 1997 Wis. Act 191 repealed s. 440.08 (2g) (b), Stats.

(2) **SCREENING FOR LIABILITY FOR DELINQUENT TAXES.** The name and social security number or federal employer identification number of an applicant shall be compared with information at the Wisconsin department of revenue that identifies individuals and organizations who are liable for delinquent taxes owed to this state.

(3) **NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY BECAUSE OF TAX DELINQUENCY.** If an applicant is identified as being liable for any delinquent taxes owed to this state in the screening process under sub. (2), the Wisconsin department of revenue shall mail a notice to the applicant at the last known address of the applicant according to s. 440.11, Stats., or to the address identified in the applicant's renewal application, if different from the address on file in the department. The notice shall state that the application for renewal submitted by the applicant shall be denied unless, within 10 days from the date of the mailing of the notice, the department of regulation and licensing receives a copy of a certificate of tax clearance issued by the Wisconsin department of revenue which shows that the applicant is not liable for delinquent state taxes or unless the Wisconsin department of revenue provides documentation to the department showing that the applicant is not liable for delinquent state taxes.

(4) **OTHER REASONS FOR DENIAL.** If the department determines that grounds for denial of an application for renewal may exist other than the fact that the applicant is liable for any delinquent taxes owed to this state, the department shall make a determination on the issue of tax delinquency before investigating other issues of renewal eligibility.

**History:** Emerg. cr. eff. 11-14-96; Cr. Register, August, 1996, No. 488, eff. 9-1-96.

**RL 9.05 Denial of renewal.** The department shall deny an application for credential renewal if the applicant fails to complete the information on the application form under s. RL 9.04 or if the Wisconsin department of revenue certifies or affirms its certification under s. 440.08 (4) (b) 3., Stats., that the applicant is liable for delinquent taxes and the department does not receive a current certificate of tax clearance or the Wisconsin department of revenue does not provide documentation showing that the applicant is not liable for delinquent taxes within the time required under s. RL 9.04 (2) and (3). The department shall mail a notice of denial to the applicant that includes a statement of the facts that warrant the denial under s. 440.08 (4) (b), Stats., and a notice that the applicant may file a written request with the department to have the denial reviewed at a hearing before the Wisconsin department of revenue.

**Note:** Section 440.08 (4) (b) 3., Stats., referred to here was repealed by 1997 Wis. Act 237 and a new, unrelated s. 440.08 (4) (b) recreated.

**History:** Emerg. cr. eff. 11-14-96; Cr. Register, August, 1996, No. 488, eff. 9-1-96.

## Chapter RL 70

### AUTHORITY AND DEFINITIONS

RL 70.01 Authority

RL 70.02 Definitions.

**RL 70.03 Authority.** The rules in chs. RL 70 to 73 are adopted by the department of regulation and licensing under the authority of ss. 227.11 (2) (a), 451.04 (2) (d), 451.12, 451.14 (2) (g) and 451.16, Stats., to govern the certification and regulation of acupuncturists.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; correction made under s. 13.93(2m) (b) 7., Stats.

**RL 70.02 Definitions.** As used in ch. 451, Stats., and chs. RL 70 to 73:

(1) (a) “Actively engaged in the certified practice of acupuncture” means using acupuncture, under the authorization of a license, certification or registration to practice acupuncture, as the primary means of treatment of patients, not as an adjunctive therapy, and the treatment is dependent upon a thorough understanding and application of Oriental diagnostic theories and practices.

(b) The applicant provides evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she has been “actively engaged in the certified practice of acupuncture” during the 5 years immediately preceding the application in any other state or territory of the United States. Any applicant, whether or not licensed, registered or certified to practice another healing art, shall provide the department with satisfactory evidence that the applicant:

1. Uses acupuncture based on Oriental diagnostic and therapeutic theories and practices as the primary means of treating diseases and disorders in a minimum of 100 patients with a minimum of 500 patient visits during the 12 months immediately preceding the date of the application, as demonstrated by patient records or affidavits.

2. Performs general health care in at least 70% of all patient visits, and performs specialized health care such as anesthetics,

cosmetic treatments, addiction therapies or weight control in no more than 30% of patient visits.

3. Practices consistent with the standards identified in a clean needle technique course acceptable to the department.

(2) “Acupressure” means the manual stimulation of acupuncture points.

(3) “Acupuncture” has the meaning given under s. 451.01 (1), Stats.

(4) “Acupuncturist” means a person who is certified under ch. 451, Stats., to practice acupuncture.

(5) “AIDS” means acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

(6) “Department” means the department of regulation and licensing.

(8) “Herbal medicine” means the use of plant, animal and mineral substances to assist in attaining or maintaining a state of health or relief from symptoms of disease.

(9) “HIV” means human immunodeficiency virus.

(10) “Laserpuncture” means the use of lasers to stimulate acupuncture points.

(11) “Moxibustion” means the application of heat produced by burning dried moxa wool to specific points of the human body other than the burning of moxa wool directly on the skin.

(12) “NCCAOM” means the national certification commission for acupuncture and Oriental medicine.

(13) “Needle sickness” includes nausea, or dizziness, or other physical discomforts resulting from acupuncture treatment.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; am. (intro.), (8) and (12), renum. (1) to (5) to be (2) to (6), cr. (1), r. (6), (7) and (14). Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

## Chapter RL 71

### CERTIFICATION

RL 71.01      Application for certification.  
RL 71.03      Application for reciprocal certification.

RL 71.04      Renewal of certification after 5 years.

**RL 71.01 Application for certification.** An applicant for Certification as an acupuncturist who has never practiced acupuncture or who does not ~~qualify~~ for certification under s. RL 71.03, shall submit to the department:

(1) An application on a form provided by the department.

**Note:** Application forms are available on request to the department at 1400 East Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708.

(3) The fee specified in s. 440.05 (1), Stats.

(4) Evidence that the applicant has never been the subject of any disciplinary action by any professional or licensing authority, and subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322 and 111.335, Stats., has not been convicted of any offense substantially related to the practice of acupuncture.

(5) Evidence of successful completion of the NCCAOM examination in acupuncture, with a passing score as determined by the NCCAOM.

(6) Evidence of successful completion of course of study and residency, the equivalent of at least 2 consecutive years of full-time education and clinical work in Oriental diagnostic and therapeutic theories and practices at a school accredited by the national accreditation commission for schools and colleges of acupuncture and Oriental medicine or the NCCAOM.

(7) Evidence of successful completion of a clean needle tech-

nique course acceptable to the department.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90, am. (intro.), (4) to (6), r. (2), Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 71.02 Application for certification of a current practitioner.**  
**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; r. Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 71.03 Application for reciprocal certification.**  
The applicant provides evidence satisfactory to the department that the requirements for certification in the other state or territory of the United States in which he or she is licensed, certified or registered to practice acupuncture are substantially equivalent to the requirements for initial certification as an acupuncturist in Wisconsin.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; r. (intro.) and (1), renum. (2) to be RL 71.03 and am., Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 71.04 Renewal of certification after 5 years.** An acupuncture Certificate holder who fails to renew his or her credential within 5 years following the renewal date of the certificate shall take and pass the examination required under s. RL 71.01 (5) within one year prior to the date of application for renewal, unless the applicant provides evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she has actively engaged in the certified practice of acupuncture during the 5 years immediately preceding the application in any other state or territory of the United States.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

## Chapter RL 72

### SAFE PRACTICE

RL 72.01	Sanitation.
RL 72.02	Sterilization.
RL 72.03	Treatment procedures.
RL 72.04	Disposal of needles.

RL 72.05	Procedure for exposure to blood
RL 72.06	Precautionary procedures.
RL 72.07	Safe practices.

**RL 72.01 Sanitation.** All areas of an establishment and the equipment used by acupuncturists in the establishment shall be maintained in a clean, sanitary and safe condition.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90.

**RL 72.02 Sterilization.** (1) All nondisposable needles, acupuncture equipment that comes in contact with a patient's blood or body fluids or penetrates the skin, and equipment used to handle or store needles shall be sterilized after each use.

(2) All equipment required to be sterilized by this section shall be thoroughly wiped clean with a disinfectant or cleansing solution before sterilization.

(3) Sterilization, as required by this section, shall be accomplished by use of one of the following in accordance with manufacturer's instructions:

(a) Autoclave for 30 minutes at 250° F., 15 pounds of steam pressure. If this method is employed, the packaging used to store the needles shall have autoclave tape to verify sterilization.

(b) Dry heat sterilization for 2 hours at 338° F. If this method is employed, the acupuncturist shall check needles for breakage after sterilization.

(c) Ethylene oxide.

(4) The following procedures are not acceptable methods of sterilization:

(a) Boiling.

(b) Soaking in alcohol or other antiseptic solution.

(c) Glass bead sterilizer.

(5) Equipment used to sterilize shall be maintained in good working order. Sterilization equipment shall be monitored as required by the manufacturer to ensure that it is functioning in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

(6) Any equipment that has been sterilized shall be stored in packaging that protects against contamination and that is clearly marked to distinguish it from unsterile equipment. Sealed packages containing sterilized equipment shall be marked with an expiration date in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

(7) Resterilization of equipment is required if any of the following occur:

(a) It is equipment stored in a sealed package beyond its expiration date.

(b) Its packaging is damaged in any way which adversely affects the ability of the packaging to maintain the sterility of its contents.

(c) It is not used on the day the equipment is removed from its package.

(8) No needle, cup, or other device shall be used on more than one point of any patient, or applied to a single point on any patient more than one time, before it is resterilized.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; am. (1), Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 72.03 Treatment procedures.** (1) Before any treatment commences, a patient shall be given the option, at the patient's own expense, to have treatment with disposable acupuncture

needles, which have been sterilized and wrapped in accordance with s. 45 1.12, Stats., and maintained in accordance with s. RL 72.02 (7).

(2) An acupuncturist shall wash his or her hands by scrubbing thoroughly for at least 10 seconds with soap or anti-microbial products between treatment of patients, immediately before an acupuncture procedure and after contact with blood or body fluids or obvious environmental contaminants.

(3) A clean field shall be maintained to protect sterility of equipment used in acupuncture treatment of each patient.

(4) A topical disinfectant shall be applied to the skin surface in the area prior to needle insertion or treatment that breaks the skin.

(5) A sterile needle shall be maintained in a sterile state prior to insertion into an acupuncture point and its shaft shall not come in contact with fingers during insertion, positioning or other manipulation.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; am. (1), Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 72.04 Disposal of needles.** All needles shall be placed in a rigid, puncture-proof sealed container for disposal. Containers used for disposal shall be so labeled, and shall carry the warning "CONTAMINATED CONTENTS — USE PRECAUTIONS." Disposal containers are to be handled and discarded appropriately.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90.

**RL 72.05 Procedure for exposure to blood.** When a patient or acupuncturist is exposed to blood by bleeding needles, laceration, or other exposure to broken skin or mucous membrane, the acupuncturist shall stop, thoroughly wash the exposed area or wound on the patient's or acupuncturist's body with soap and water, and disinfect the exposed area or wound with a topical disinfectant. In the case of mucous membrane exposure, the acupuncturist shall wash or rinse the affected area with copious amounts of water.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90.

**RL 72.06 Precautionary procedures.** (1) An acupuncturist shall cover any abrasions, oozing or open lesions or wounds on his or her hands or forearms prior to patient contact. If an acupuncturist has oozing or open lesions or weeping dermatitis on his or her hands or forearms that cannot be effectively covered, the acupuncturist shall refrain from direct patient contact until such condition has resolved.

(2) An acupuncturist shall use a new pair of disposable protective gloves in treating each patient who has oozing or open lesions or weeping dermatitis in the area where treatment is to be performed and dispose of the gloves after each such use.

(3) If an acupuncturist learns that a patient has AIDS, hepatitis, or any other blood-borne infectious disease, or has tested positive for HIV, then the acupuncturist shall use disposable needles in treating that patient.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; am. (3), Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 72.07 Safe practices. (1)** No acupuncturist shall engage in any treatment which violates standards of good and accepted practice of acupuncture, or which makes use of any unsanitary or non-sterile equipment.

**(2)** An acupuncturist shall obtain from each patient a medical history pertinent to the patient's chief complaints.

**(3)** When an acupuncturist encounters a patient with a potentially serious disorder including, but not limited to, cardiac conditions, uncontrolled hypertension, acute abdominal symptoms, acute undiagnosed neurological changes, unexplained weight loss or gain in excess of 15% of body weight within a 3 month period, suspected fracture or dislocation, suspected systemic infection, communicable disease, any serious undiagnosed hemorrhagic disorder or acute respiratory distress without previous

history or diagnosis, the acupuncturist shall:

(a) In a non-emergency situation, request a consultation or written diagnosis from a licensed physician prior to commencing acupuncture treatment or continuing treatment if the situation is discovered in the course of treatment.

(b) In an emergency situation, provide life support and transportation to the nearest licensed medical facility.

**(4)** An acupuncturist shall have on file for each patient treated a written confirmation signed by the patient and the acupuncturist acknowledging that the patient has been advised to consult a physician regarding the conditions for which such patient seeks acupuncture treatment.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; **renum.** (2) and (3) to be (3) and (4) and **am.** (3) (a), cr. (2), Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.



## Chapter RL 73

### FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLINE

RL 73.01      Grounds for denial of certification or discipline  
RL 73.02      Use of titles.

RL 73.03      Examples of false, deceptive or misleading advertising

**RL 73.01    Grounds for denial of certification or discipline.** For purposes of s. 451.14 (2) (b), Stats., engaging in conduct while practicing acupuncture that evidences a lack of knowledge or ability to apply professional principles or skills includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Practicing acupuncture while ability is impaired by a mental or emotional disorder, physical disability, alcohol or other drugs.

(2) Violating, or aiding or abetting violation of any law, the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of acupuncture or other healing art.

(3) Practicing acupuncture without a current and valid certificate.

(4) Having been disciplined in another jurisdiction in any way by a certifying, registering, or licensing authority for reasons substantially the same as those set forth in s. 451.14, Stats., or in chs. RL 70 to 73.

(5) After a request by the department, failing to cooperate in a timely manner with the department's investigation of a complaint filed against an acupuncturist. The department will apply a rebuttable presumption that an acupuncturist who takes longer than 30 days to respond to a request by the department has not acted in a timely manner.

(6) Practicing acupuncture fraudulently, beyond its authorized scope, with gross incompetence or gross negligence, with incompetence on one or more occasions, with negligence on more than one occasion, or practicing acupuncture or any secondary therapeutic technique beyond or inconsistent with training, education or experience.

(7) Refusing to provide professional services to a person solely on the basis of such person's race, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, political or religious beliefs, handicap, marital status or national origin.

(8) Failing to provide duplicate patient records when requested by the patient or the department. If the original record is not in English, the acupuncturist shall provide the duplicate in English translation performed by a competent translator. Thirty days is presumed to be a reasonable period of time in which to obtain the translation.

(9) Failing to maintain complete and accurate records of each patient visit, including patient histories, summaries of examinations, diagnoses, and treatments performed or prescribed, and referrals to other practitioners of acupuncture or any other healing art, for a period of 7 years past the most recent visit of the patient to whom the record refers, or the time the patient reaches the age of majority.

(11) Providing acupuncture without the informed consent of a patient: Informed consent requires:

(a) The disclosure to the patient of the availability of all alternate, viable modes of acupuncture treatment and the benefits and risks of these treatments, including the risks and benefits associated with the use of:

1. Acupuncture needles to stimulate acupuncture points and meridians, including the specific risks of needling certain points.

2. Use of mechanical, magnetic or electrical stimulation of acupuncture points, particularly in instances where such stimulation is applied across the midline of the trunk or in patients with a history of heart trouble.

3. Moxibustion.

4. Herbal medicine.

5. Laserpuncture.

6. Acupressure.

(b) The disclosure to the patient shall involve a disclosure of the side effects including:

1. Some pain at the site of needle insertion.

2. Minor bruising.

3. Infection and the risks from needling in the vicinity of an infection.

4. Needle sickness.

5. Broken needles.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90; r. and recr. intro., am. (4), (6), (8) and (9), r. (10), Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 73.02    Use of titles.** (1) Any person certified under ch. 451, Stats., to practice acupuncture shall include the title "acupuncturist," "Wisconsin certified acupuncturist," or a similar title in advertisements of acupuncture services.

(2) Any person certified under ch. 451, Stats., to practice acupuncture who has been conferred the degree of doctor of Oriental medicine may advertise his or her services as an acupuncturist to the public using the title "doctor of Oriental medicine" or "D.O.M.," if the title "acupuncturist," "Wisconsin certified acupuncturist," or a similar title is used in the same advertisement.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

**RL 73.03    Examples of false, deceptive or misleading advertising.** For purposes of s. 451.14 (2) (d), Stats., false, deceptive or misleading advertising includes:

(1) Advertising acupuncture services using a title that includes the words "medical doctor" or the initials "M.D." unless the acupuncturist meets the requirements of s. 448.03 (3) (a), Stats.

**Note:** Section 448.03 (3) USE OF TITLES. (a) No person may use or assume the title "doctor of medicine" or append to the person's name the letters "M.D." unless one of the following applies:

1. The person possesses the degree of doctor of medicine.

2. The person is licensed as a physician under this subchapter because the person satisfied the degree requirement of s. 448.05 (2) by possessing a medical degree that was conferred by a medical school recognized and listed as such by the World Health Organization of the United Nations.

(2) Advertising acupuncture services using the title "Doctor" or the abbreviation "Dr.," or "Ph.D." in connection with the practice of acupuncture unless the acupuncturist possesses a license or certificate which authorizes such use or possesses an earned doctorate degree which is in acupuncture or Oriental medicine.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1998, No. 509, eff. 6-1-98.

## FILING A COMPLAINT

### COMPLAINTS AND THE DISCIPLINARY PROCESSED

#### Board Authority for Professional Discipline

Each of the licensing boards in the department has **statutory authority** to take disciplinary action against licensees who engage in unprofessional conduct or violate other rules/statutes of the board. Unprofessional conduct **typically** includes: practicing fraudulently, negligently, or incompetently, practicing while being impaired by alcohol, **drugs or** mental disability, conviction for a crime related to the licensed practice and similar serious matters.

In taking disciplinary action, boards have the **authority to reprimand** a licensee, to suspend, revoke, or limit a license. The purposes of professional discipline, as defined by the Wisconsin Supreme court, are: 1) to protect the public, 2) to promote the rehabilitation of the licensee, 3) to deter other licensees from engaging in similar conduct and 4) to **publicly** express disapproval of certain conduct.

#### How to File A Complaint

Anyone who wishes to file a complaint against a licensee of a board or a complaint involving activity with the jurisdiction of that board should do so in writing. Preferably a **complaint** form should be completed. Complaint forms are available either through the department or the Examining Board offices at 1400 East Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin, mailing address, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin, 53708. The complaint forms should be completed in detail, including the who, what, when, and where of a situation. The information should be set forth in chronological order as best as it can be recalled. If written documents are involved, copies should be included.

#### How the Complaint Is Processed

After a complaint is received, it is logged in the department's Division of Enforcement and then screened to determine whether or not the matter is **something over** which the board has jurisdiction; and, if so, to identify the statute or rule that may have been violated. If the board does have jurisdiction, the complaint is assigned to an attorney and investigator for investigation.

The attorney and the investigator confer during the course of the investigation. In addition, a member of the board may be **assigned as** an advisor in the case. Investigative contacts can be made by telephone, letter, personal interview or any combination of those procedures. The investigation involves gathering relevant facts of the case. Persons with knowledge of the case are contacted. This usually includes the person who made the complaint and the person about whom the complaint was made. If treatment records are involved, they will be obtained. Confidentiality of the records will be maintained as required by law.

Once the investigation is complete, the investigator, attorney and board advisor review the results of the investigation and come to a preliminary decision on whether the case should be closed with no action taken, or whether formal disciplinary action should be commenced.

If the preliminary determination is for case closure, that recommendation, along with relevant findings, is presented **by the investigator** to the members of the board in closed session at a scheduled board meeting. If the board concurs, the file is closed by board motion. Letters are then sent to the person who filed the complaint and to the licensee, explaining that the case was closed and the reasons for closure.

If the determination by the investigative team is to commence disciplinary action, the Division of Enforcement attorney prepares all necessary documents, including a formal complaint against the licensee, and the matter is scheduled for a hearing.

#### How The Formal Complaint is Resolved

Disciplinary hearings are conducted by hearing examiners, who are attorneys. While the statutes give the board the authority to preside over hearings without the use of a hearing examiner, most boards request that a hearing examiner be used. Furthermore, if the board members made the decision to issue a complaint, an examiner must be used. This ensures that the prosecutorial and adjudicative functions are separate, and that a fair and impartial decision is made.

The hearing examiner will generally schedule a **pre** hearing conference between the parties. The major purposes of the pre-hearing conference are to set forth the issues in the case, determine what matters can be resolved without the need for formal testimony, and to establish a schedule for bringing the matter to hearing. Some of the cases, **that** may lead to the issuance of a formal complaint, are resolved by stipulation between the parties. Of course, such stipulations are subject to the approval of the board involved.

If a formal hearing is necessary, in most cases the hearing examiner presides over it. All testimony is under oath and transcribed. The parties are expected to call whatever witnesses are necessary. The process is very much like a trial. The length of the hearings can range from a few hours to several days. Once the hearing is **complete**, the hearing examiner prepares proposed findings of fact, proposed conclusions of law and a proposed decision. **This** is filed with the board, which reviews the decision and determines whether to affirm, reverse or amend it. If a member of the board participated in the investigation, that person is not involved in the board's decision on the case.

The board's options in disciplinary matters are: dismissing the complaint, reprimanding the licensee, limiting, suspending or revoking the licensee's license, or, in some instances, assessing a forfeiture against the licensee. Boards do not have the authority to award monetary damages or to get money back that a party may believe is due. If a party is dissatisfied with a board decision, the decision can be appealed to circuit court. A circuit court decision can in turn be appealed to higher courts.

The above steps set forth very generally the process that takes place if a complaint is filed against a licensee of one of the boards attached to the department. Each case is different, and some variations may occur among the boards.

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